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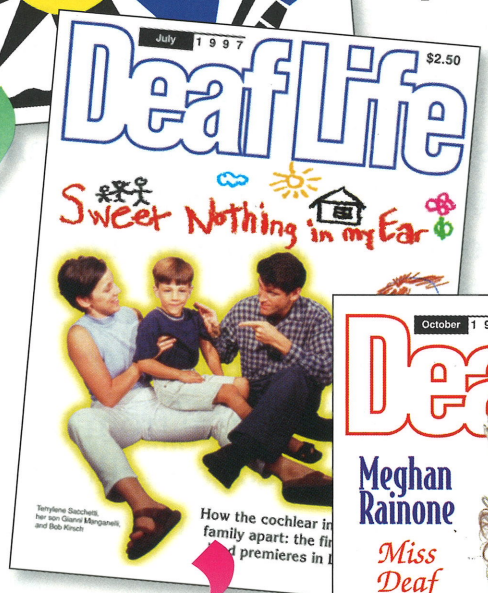
Deaf Life

10th ANNIVERSARY



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Deaf Life

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

It's been an incredible 10 years—rounding up all those profiles, chasing down news, following up on DPN, the passage of the ADA, the advances in captioning and telecommunications, the ups and downs of deaf images in the media, the battles to keep schools for the deaf open, the cochlear-implant and English-literacy controversies, the ongoing debate over communication modes, the struggles over job opportunities, discrimination, the impact of AIDS, new technologies . . . what a decade it's been for our community!

This special issue focuses on updates of all past cover stories. Our regular features "For Hearing People Only," "DeafView," "A Few More Words," and all columns, are on hold this month. They'll be back next month.

As we enter our eleventh year, we're taking a look back, and a step forward. We have some good stories lined up. I plan to continue serving the community with **Deaf Life**, new books, and other projects.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our contributors (columns, articles, essays, and letters), readers who have sent us news, photos, illustrations, leads, and clips that we have reprinted with permission. I'd also like to thank our advertisers for their support, which makes it possible for us to continue our task of serving the Deaf and Hearing communities. And, last but by no means least, I'd like to thank our subscribers for their faith in us, their enthusiasm, and their patience when we couldn't avoid getting an issue of **Deaf Life** delivered late. I appreciate the support you've given us for the past decade, your questions, comments, ideas, suggestions, criticisms, and encouragement. You have made **Deaf Life** part of your life, and participated in the dialogue. Thanks to you all, here we are!

One further note: I'd also like to extend my thanks to my loyal staffers: Linda Levitan and Charles F. Bancroft, both of whom have worked with me for over 10 years; and to Diane M. White.

I hope that you enjoy this special issue and the surprise insert.

Matthew S. Moore

Deaf Life

FROM OUR READERS

"Congratulations on your 10th!"

Dear Matthew:

On behalf of Deaf Entertainment Foundation/Guild, I would like to congratulate you for the 10th anniversary of your magazine, **Deaf Life**. Your magazine has contributed greatly to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community by printing information that is newsworthy and interesting. We consider that 10 years of your publication is indeed a big achievement for a deaf publisher.

Congratulations!

Keep up the good work!

DEFly Yours,

Ken Elks
Executive Director
Deaf Entertainment Foundation
Beverly Hills, California

Taking pride

The following comments are taken from communications involving updates of our cover stories.

Thank you for your letter of March 18, 1998 and congratulations on the forthcoming 10th Year Anniversary of **Deaf Life**. You should be very proud of this accomplishment and for all the positive and informative news the magazine brings to its readers.

Tony Allicino
Friends of AlB's
Scholarship Funds
North Plainfield, New Jersey

Here goes the update for your exciting **Deaf Life** project . . . Before I go on, bravo bravo bravo to you and everyone for the great 10th anniversary. Oh my oh my, see how time flies . . .

Julianna Fjeld
Dublin, California

Congratulations on your magazine's 10th anniversary. You should be deservedly proud of this accomplishment and the service you provide to the deaf community.

Greg Martin
Manager of Corporate Communications
Saturn Corporation
Spring Hill, Tennessee

I must say—while I have the opportunity . . . You have been doing a truly wonderful job with **Deaf Life**. It really is a wonderfully done magazine providing a very valuable resource to the community. I do appreciate your work.

Dr. **Susan Rutherford**
Executive Director
D.E.A.F. Media

Bummy the Bishop!

As great as the story or stories about Bummy and his many outstanding adventures in his life, I must commend you guys for such a justifiable article about him. He's a long-time friend of mine as we both grew up mostly together here and there. However, I just wanted to let you know that his part in the deaf entertainment field was a thing of sheer beauty! His involvement in the field of show business during the latter days of the 60's and the early 70's would be a definite story that must be told.

His "Bummy and Seymour" shows for three consecutive years during the heydays

I think the world of that guy. I am going to frame my copy of **Deaf Life** and hang it in my office. I thank God that his father steered him to Gallaudet!

—Jack R. Gannon

were one of the best and top shows of them all. He collaborated with me to produce these shows along with a full star-studded [cast of] show people performing on the stage before many thousands in the audience. He was instrumental in providing influence on getting famous performers like Lou Fant, Joyce Groode, Barbie Reade, Flip Reade, Carolyn Preston, Mary Beth Miller, and Frank Paul to perform their sign-and-dance routines which enthralled deaf and hearing alike. The shows were the "HIT" during that time and from then on, people continued to speak most favorably of those old days. They even made another request most recently to revive this type of a show for the last "hurrah!" Bummy also acted in a splendid play entitled ***See How They Run***, portraying one of the bishops. Believe it or not...Bummy as one of the Bishops! It was also one of the most memorable and most hilarious performances he had given. He often was chosen to be our top-notch Toastmaster in many of our affairs and continues to be a theater buff with his consistent attendance to the Mark Taper Forum and Deaf West in Los Angeles. He was and still is the foremost deaf "Joker" of all times with his bagful of jokes, tricks and dry wits.

I am very fortunate to be associated with him in many paths concerning the deaf life here in Southern California. He is the greatest deaf man in our country and I can proudly say "Bummy is that Deaf Man of the 20th Century." No one is like Bummy and he is one of God's reward to the Deaf World!

Forever one of His Chosen Few in friendship,

Seymour S. Bernstein
Riverside, California

Bummy: *sui generis!*

Thanks for your apt portrayal of one "Bummy" Burstein in the April issue—not only was it heart-warming to see that some good old-fashioned values never change and will always have vital place in this oft-called "vale of tears,"° but those old pictures . . . . . ah, if a picture is still worth a thousand words, that issue of **Deaf Life** and the article on Bummy are worth a zillion or two!

Bummy calls those halcyon° days at Gallaudet the happiest of his life—what was it that the undergrads at Yale used to sing? "Brief college years, with memories rife, the shortest, gladdest years of life"—but then, don't our school days seem to be more vivid, more meaningful particularly in the afterglow of memory?? Yes, what memories the article evokes!

And, yes, Virginia, there once was a Gallaudet where ties and coats were *de rigeur*° for the boys—and sneakers? Fine for gym and intramurals. Facial hair? Would practically render one *persona non grata*,° almost a pariah° if you will, among the Fowler Hall lassies.

But as for good ole Bummy—you touched ALL bases—yes, nothing can be added, nothing can be taken away from what you wrote.

Deaf Life FROM OUR READERS

Gerald Burstein a *sui generis*, one-of-a-kind? Who knows—but this I think I know—they sure as heck ain't making many Gerald M. Bursteins no more!!

Joe Kopas
Framingham, Massachusetts

P.S. Enjoy the issues more'n ever—use this letter any way you deem fit, or just discard it—but THANKS for the story!

The Editors reply: *Discard it???!!!*

Mini-gloss

vale of tears: (*idiom*) a poetic or humorous expression for "life" or "the world." "Vale" is a poetic form of "valley."

halcyon: (*adjective*) golden years; a peaceful; delightfully calm and prosperous time. (Greek.)

de rigeur: (*adjective*) re-quired; obligatory; a must. (French.)

persona non grata: (*idiom*) literally, "a person without grace;" someone who is socially shunned or ignored; a nonperson. (Latin.)

pariah: (*noun*) a *real* social outcast.

sui generis: (*adjective*) in a unique category; in a class of his own. (Latin.)

The pleasure of his acquaintance

CONGRATULATIONS! You did an outstanding job on the article about my good friend and fellow parliamentarian, G. "Bummy" Burstein, in the April 1998 edition of **Deaf Life**.

I was the monitor for Bummy when he took his written examination to obtain his Certified Parliamentarian (CP), in the American Institute of Parliamentarians (AIP).

It was my pleasure to arrange for the oral examination Bummy had to pass to obtain his Certified Professional Parliamentarian (CPP) from AIP during the National AIP Convention, August 11-14, 1988, in Long Beach, California. At the same convention, Bummy gave the Key Note Address to a very appreciative audience. I believe Bummy is the first ever deaf person to take the oral examination in sign language!

Bummy attends, and is frequently a presenter, at the Annual Parliamentary Practicum, held at California Polytechnic University, Kellogg West Conference Center, Pomona, California, each January.

Bummy is a Charter Member of the Riverside Society of Parliamentarians and frequently attends meetings with his interpreter.

Being in Riverside, we consult frequently. By voice communication through his secretary at CSDR, via the California TRS, FAX, E-mail, and many times Bummy comes by the house where we use up a lot of yellow tablets to solve challenges.

When Bummy and I were working with the California Association of the Deaf (CAD), on a revision of their bylaws, I would prepare drafts for their review, opinions or approval, before proceeding to a final draft. Working with an interpreter, one day I asked her to tell the committee something dealing with the subject at hand. She said, 'I can't." I asked, "Why not?" She said, "They aren't looking." I should have known!

I consider it a personal as well as professional privilege

Bravo bravo bravo to you and everyone [on your staff] for the great 10th anniversary. Oh my oh my, see how time flies . . .
—Julianna Fjeld

to work with Bummy, and consider it an honor to be mentioned in his books and video tape.

There is only one "BUMMY," and you captured his personality, character and humor in a most outstanding way. Congratulations again!

Charles H. Johnson, CPP-T, PRP
Past President, AIP
Riverside, California

Bummy gets framed!

Dear Matthew:

Rosalyn and I commend you for that wonderful feature story on Gerald "Bummy" Burstein which appeared in your April issue. It was one of the best features on Bummy we have ever read.

Bummy and I worked closely together when he was president of the Gallaudet University Alumni Association (1982-1992) and I was the GUAA Executive Secretary. I'd call him every Monday morning (9:00 a.m. Washington, D.C. time, 6:00 a.m. California time) and give him a weekly briefing of developments on the campus and then we'd discuss GUAA business. He referred to me as his "Eastern alarm clock."

Your story captures the real Bummy. I "know well him." He is a kind, sensitive, generous, and funny individual. I think the world of that guy. I am going to frame my copy of **Deaf Life** and hang it in my office.

I thank God that his father steered him to Gallaudet!

Best wishes.

Jack R. Gannon
Silver Spring, Maryland

His hands, her voice

I enjoyed the wonderfully written article about a wonderful man, Bummy. I first met him in 1965 when he was in NLTP at CSUN where I was working part-time as an interpreter. That started our long-term friendship and his invitation to voice-interpret for him at numerous occasions when he is M.C.

Since he frequently has a female voice-interpreter, Bummy often explains to the audience that they will hear a female voice "coming from a man's hands" thanks to his oral education . . . all of his speech teachers were women!

This led me to share the following when I got the opportunity at his "Roast," a CAD fundraiser held in 1985 in Riverside, California:

> Because of Bummy's "female" voice, people often ask me if Bummy is really a man or a woman. Well, I'm here to tell you, he's a man! He's all MAN! How do I know? I asked his brother. He's a doctor, remember!

Bummy claims to be relieved that the **Deaf Life** article is about his "day-life" only and not his "night-life"! His day-life has been so full and productive, I'm not sure he has any time left for any night-life. One more thing he's done not mentioned In the article—DawnSignPress is soon releasing a videotape of ***Bummy's Parliamentary Procedure*** to go along with his informative handbook.

Bummy truly deserves a "hand" for his accomplishments. It's a good thing Bummy didn't get into that Podiatry class at Long Island University in NYC. Otherwise, he'd be talking to our feet instead of to students everywhere—or he might "put his foot in his mouth" (something he never does).

I'm proud and honored to consider him a special friend and colleague in the field of education.

Joyce R. Linden
(formerly Groode)
Associate Professor
College of Education/Dept. of Special Education
CSUN
Northridge, California

***Editors' note**: See the April 1998 update in this issue.*

Thanks for the memories!

After reading about Bummy in the April issue of **Deaf Life**, I felt compelled to write. Both my wife and I have fond memories of him as our role model while he was a teacher at the Minnesota School for the Deaf (now Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf). Besides Mathematics, he taught many of us the real meaning of life. Whenever it was his turn to tell stories, all eyes were glued to him. I recall him telling us a story in two installments probably intentionally (staff rotate turns giving the mini ten-minute lectures during school days). We were coming to the story's climax when he looked up at the clock and announced that he would finish up the story next time. No matter how hard we begged for the conclusion, he wouldn't budge an inch. We had to wait for about a month before we knew how the story ended.

He always finds time to share his experiences and his great sense of humor with us. I know I owe my teaching skills to him. I believe my receiving CAID's Teacher of the Year Award in 1991 was because of his influence and guidance. On behalf of many Minnesotans, thanks, Bummy, for the memories.

Jim Potter
MSAD
Faribault, Minnesota

How Bummy shaped CRS

Bummy Burstein served on the Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program Administrative Committee (DDTPAC) from 1989 to 1997. Bummy was the first Chair of the committee and served as its Chair until the expiration of his terms in 1997.

During Bummy's 8 years on the DDTPAC, he made very positive contributions to the program in general and in particular to the California Relay Service. Bummy was one of the strongest advocates of the fact that relay users should be able to choose their relay provider, just as hearing telephone users choose their telephone provider. When California's relay contract with Sprint as a sole provider was about to expire in 1996, Bummy advocated strongly for changing the contract to a multiple-provider contract. He was certain that all of the major relay providers would want to offer service in California, even if it meant they would have less than 100% of the traffic.

Bummy was successful in convincing others on the committee that a multiple-vendor approach was the way to go. California released its Invitation for Bid (IFB), which established that any relay provider who could meet the minimum service-quality standards contained in the IFB and who would be willing to be reimbursed at the rate established through the competitive bidding, would be able to offer relay service in California. MCI was the compliant bidder offering the lowest price, so MCI was designated as the primary provider for CRS. This meant that MCI would be able to use California's existing 800 numbers for CRS.

After the primary-provider status was awarded to MCI, both Sprint and AT&T (who had submitted bids) declined to offer service in California. They both contended that the authorized reimbursement rate of 69.9¢ per conversation

minute, was too low to allow them to offer service.

After several months of low-quality service provided by MCI and many, many consumer complaints, Bummy was insistent that we must raise the reimbursement rate to motivate other providers to offer service in California. Bummy again was successful in convincing the other committee members that this step needed to be taken, and in June of 1997, the California Public Utilities Commission authorized an increase in the reimbursement rate to 89¢ per conversation minute.

In September of 1997, Sprint began offering relay service in California. So now, relay users in this state may choose to use either MCI or Sprint as their relay provider.

Bummy's perseverance and vision were influential factors in establishing the multiple-vendor environment in California. Bummy was also influential, however, in many aspects of our equipment-distribution program here in California. Bummy served on a subcommittee which worked with a consultant to perform a study of the availability of TTYs on public pay phones. The study revealed that the ADA has not been very successful in achieving more widespread installation of TTYs on public pay phones.

As a result of this study, legislation was introduced and passed in California that orders the California Public Utilities Commission to establish a program to install TTYs on public phones in locations throughout California that are not covered by the ADA. Bummy now serves on the subcommittee appointed by the Public Utilities Commission to set up this new program.

The Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program owes much of its success over the past 10 years to the contributions and the influence of Bummy Burstein. Not only has he been a leader nationally on many issues, but also his leadership has been extremely evident in California. His expertise in parliamentary procedure allowed him to be a very effective Chair of the DDTPAC, and that in turn allowed the committee to be successful.

Shelley Bergum
DDTP
Oakland, California

"From cover to cover"

I just finished reading the last issue of **Deaf Life** [May 1998], pretty much from cover to cover and with great interest. You are doing a great job.

Sincerely yours,
Verena Straubhaar
Madison, Wisconsin

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Deaf Life

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"A LABOR OF LOVE": A BRIEF HISTORY

From video to "slick" print

In 1984, Matthew Scott Moore, a recent graduate of Rochester Institute of Technology (BSW, '83), incorporated his own tiny, independent media company, now called MSM Productions, Ltd. His background in social work had given him insight into the grassroots-Deaf community and a desire to utilize mass media as a means of effecting social change.

That summer, he produced and directed ***Deaf Magazine***, a half-hour magazine-format pilot TV show focusing on Deaf issues and personalities. It was the realization of a long-cherished ambition. ***Deaf Magazine*** was opened-captioned, and featured attractive graphics and original jazzy theme music. When it aired on Rochester's local ABC affiliate, it drew unanimously favorable response. Viewers loved it. Even the **Democrat & Chronicle's** TV critic gave it a glowing review.

Moore wanted to make ***Deaf Magazine*** a regular series. He drew up a detailed prospectus with a list of proposed topics for one-hour programs, demographic analysis, estimated budget, etc. He then sought to secure corporate funding to make the series a reality. But the money just wasn't there. Many local corporations had contributed to the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. As a result, the funding pools were dry. Without funding, the proposed ***Deaf Magazine*** series was forced to remain just that—a proposal on paper.

On paper? After encountering one frustration after another, Moore came up with the idea of starting a magazine as a way to raise the necessary funds. He already had extensive experience with print media, having edited his high-school newspaper (**The Reflector**) at Indiana School for the Deaf. In 1982, he founded and directed the Student Communication Center (SCC) at NTID. Moore wanted NTID students to get hands-on experience in print and video media. His goal was to establish a student-run multimedia team that would both publish (a newspaper) and produce (TV programs). NTID's official publications, written by hearing professionals and printed by an outside company, had no student involvement. Under Moore's leadership, the SCC team published a newspaper, **Perspectives**, and produced a TV show, ***Sharing***, which aired after he had graduated. Several former SCC co-workers were ultimately recruited for the new venture.

The core staff

The first volunteer was Charles Francis Bancroft, an old friend majoring in Printing Production Technology at NTID (and, of course, an SCC teammate). One night while they were having dinner together at a local restaurant, Moore told Bancroft he wanted to start a "commercial" magazine for deaf people. Bancroft enthusiastically "joined on." He still handles the technical aspects of production, printing, and the Internet.

"What we're doing is a labor of love. We earn no money from **Deaf Life**. We've put many exhausting hours into producing the highest-quality product we can. I and my tiny staff are doing this on behalf of the Deaf community. It's our way of being involved-and helping to make positive changes."

—Matthew S. Moore

Linda Levitan, a student majoring in Painting/Illustration at RIT, already had a B.A. degree in English from New York University that she'd somehow never been able to put to use. In September 1986, having learned about the upcoming magazine, she sent in some samples of her writing. Moore liked her work, contacted her, and assigned her to do a book review for the Trial Issue. She was quickly recruited as Copy Editor. She handles the textual aspects, much of the correspondence, and the database work.

Bancroft and Levitan, the core team, work closely with Moore, who handles the business and aspects and much of the design. Diane M. White helps with the "gruntwork"—mailing and sorting.

Why "Deaf Life"?

When Moore founded his company, there was no independent magazine for deaf people run by deaf people. There were several existing publications, but they were either house organs or newsletters (which could not take an independent approach), or newspapers.

The new venture would have a twofold aim: to keep deaf readers informed of what was happening (issues, events, and personalities) in an entertaining, accessible way, and to educate hearing readers about a much-stereotyped, much-misunderstood minority culture. Moore envisioned a colorful, slick-format trade-size magazine with advertisements for "mainstream" products (like cola and jeans) in addition to the traditional deaf-oriented ads for TTYs and assistive devices.

ASL users have an expression glossed as "deaf life," and which literally means "the reality of being deaf" ("Deaf life, that!") Moore chose it for the title.

Getting it off the ground

Negative attitudes in the Deaf community presented the toughest obstacle of all. The other big problem: timing. The projected publication date had to be pushed back several times. The Trial Issue, originally slated for publication in Summer 1986, was a year late.

In June 1987, the long-delayed Trial Issue was finally published. Copies were mailed out to 2,300+ purchasers nationwide, who'd paid $2.50 per copy, sight unseen. Compared with the later issues, this was quite a primitive affair, but, excepting the cover story—a follow-up on NTD's founding members—it *was* in color. And it gave readers a glimpse of what was possible.

In the meantime (while rounding up subscribers), the MSM team started **Deaf Rochesterians' Newsmagazine**, covering local events. That venture lasted a year and a half. Finally, Moore decided to go ahead and start publishing **Deaf Life** on a monthly basis. The Gallaudet "DPN" uprising had created major shock waves throughout the Deaf community and beyond. The money wasn't there, but the time was ripe. **Deaf Rochesterians' Newsmagazine** folded, and the MSM Productions team focused its energies wholly on **Deaf Life**. The first monthly issue, with a cover story on Dr. I. King Jordan, was published in July 1988. Lack of funding meant that Moore had to curtail his original plan to have a full-color magazine and settle for a mostly black-and-white one with color reserved for the cover and a few inside pages. But, he reasoned, a black-and-white magazine can still look good.

Gradually, **Deaf Life** established a loyal base of subscribers, readers, and advertisers. **Deaf Life** has a very high pass-along rate—many subscribers loan or give their copies to friends,

students, co-workers, and relatives. Teachers use **Deaf Life** in their classes. Doctors, counselors, and other professionals leave copies in their waiting rooms. There are a number of Canadian and a smattering of international subscribers.

Improvements are ongoing. A sleek new logo was introduced in the July 1992 issue. Several covers have been designed by Deaf artists, which fits nicely with Moore's goal of supporting and encouraging Deaf artists and designers.

Connections

Deaf Life isn't just news and profiles and controversies. It's about connecting, too. The **Deaf Life** team sees the magazine was a way of bringing people together, and a means of changing societal attitudes in a positive, appealing way.

Deaf Life is a magazine for the Deaf and Hearing communities—a forum for the free sharing of "inside" and "outside" views—i.e., "DeafView," "A Few More Words," "Oh, No! Not Again!", and "Letters to the Editor." Readers are offered plenty of opportunity to get involved. And they do. Networking is an integral part of the mission.

Moore recognizes that change is a mutual process. Improving the conditions of the Deaf community demands not only a strong sense of Deaf pride and responsibility, but also recognition by the Hearing community that Deaf people have their own linguistic and cultural identity. Contributions, questions, and suggestions from hearing readers are valued.

Requests for information and referrals continue to come in, poignant letters from parents of newly-diagnosed deaf children, from late-deafened adults who find themselves isolated, from hearing students who are thinking about becoming sign-language interpreters and feel a little scared, or deaf students who want to become veterinarians but are worried about discrimination, from teachers who want to photocopy "HPO" installments for their classes. Every such letter is a reflection of the impact **Deaf Life** has on their lives . . . and on the lives they touch.

One of the advantages of independence is being able to say what needs to be said, without regard to an official "party line." **Deaf Life** has NO official ties to any organization, agency, or institution. And that's the way they want it.

As **Deaf Life** grew, Moore wanted to "keep on the pulse of the Deaf community." In June 1991, **Deaf Life** established an Advisory Board, consisting of Bernard Bragg, Julianna Fjeld, Bill Graham, Alice Hagemeyer, Bob Panara, and Frank Turk (all of whom appeared on its covers). These were respected deaf professionals from a variety of backgrounds (culturally-Deaf to late-deafened) whose opinions and guidance were valued. This in no way diminished **Deaf Life's** proudly independent stance.

Spinning off

One of **Deaf Life**'s regular features is a question-and-answer column, "For Hearing People Only." This proved so popular that Moore and Levitan decided to publish the columns in book form. In Spring 1992, Moore started a subsidiary, Deaf Life Press. In September 1992, Deaf Life Press published **For Hearing People Only**, an expanded compilation of the first 48 "HPO" installments. It was a hit. The first edition was sold out before June 1993. Plans for a second edition were immediately put in the works. By then, Deaf Life Press was busily at work on its second book. Several books have been published to date (by Bernard Bragg and Jack R. Olson, Raymond Luczak, and Bob Panara), and more are coming up. The second edition of **HPO** is now in its seventh printing.

The shocking truth

Deaf Life has gradually taken a more political slant in support of Deaf Culture. Says Moore: "**Deaf Life** belongs to the Deaf community. We have to take a stand." But Moore keeps meeting deaf people who believe that **Deaf Life** is run by hearing people! One shocking fact: **Deaf Life** is written and produced by Deaf people.

Another astounding fact about **Deaf Life**: the staff earns nothing from it—not Moore, not Bancroft, not Levitan. Most of its writers contribute for free. All revenues are re-invested into the company and go towards the cost of printing, upgrading the equipment, and improving the coverage. The team very rarely takes anything close to a vacation. Levitan says, "The only ones who get rich are the readers. We want **Deaf Life** to enrich their lives. We're not making any dough on this." It boils down to this: **Deaf Life** is a labor of love. "It's our way of serving the community," says Moore.

Looking ahead

Deaf Life is still growing and evolving. Even though the **Deaf Life** staff takes pride in their achievements, they are never satisfied. They're constantly striving to improve the quality and depth of the coverage, the appearance of the magazine, its timeliness and appeal. It's an incurable itch.

Deaf Life has begun branching out into the Internet. In Fall 1997, MSM Production's first Website, DEAFLIFE.COM, was launched. It contains a complete catalogue of back issues, index, availability information, and a Deaf Life Press catalogue. Visitors can share their opinions on posted topics in DEAFVIEW.COM.

In February 1998, MSM Productions, Ltd. launched DEAFCHAT.COM, a free 24-hour chatroom. Everyone is welcome to join in. There is now a group of regulars ("hardcore DeafChat addicts," as Levitan calls them) who congregate online every night to chat, swap jokes, network, and discuss serious topics. New visitors are always stopping by. DeafChat's first special chat program (two 2-hour sessions) was held on May 6, 1998, in collaboration with NTID, and with Meghan Rainone, Miss Deaf America, as guest. It was a hit, and more "specials" are planned.

Moore and his team have some good stories lined up for **Deaf Life** and some exciting multimedia plans. Those are being kept under wraps for now. But anyone who knows Moore knows that he is always up to *something*. And the "MSM" team enjoys a challenge. Each day is a new adventure. There's always more to do.

A NOTE TO OUR READERS

To all those who assisted with the updates and correspondence and loaned us photographs, we extend our thanks. Our deepest gratitude to the "cover-profiles" themselves for their cooperation. We received far more information than we had space for, and it wasn't an easy task to cut the text down to size.

In addition to the profiles and prime sources credited in each update, we thank all those who helped make this issue possible: publicists, PR people, parents, companions, friends, colleagues, assistants, and secretaries.

We also extend our thanks to those who have enabled us to reach this milestone: regular and occasional contributors; columnists; authors of articles, reports, first-person accounts, essays, and letters; readers who have sent us newspaper and magazine articles that we have reprinted with permission; and those who have sent us news, photos, illustrations, leads, and shared constructive criticisms, suggestions, and ideas.

And once again, our thanks and appreciation to our readers, especially those who have been with us since July 1988.

—From the staff at MSM Productions, Ltd.

MSM PRODUCTIONS LTD

Deaf Life

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Deaf Life belongs to the community. Our readers have told us that it's a part of their lives. They do more than just read it—they share it, discuss it with others, pass copies around, even argue about it. They get involved. It's good to see a magazine have that effect.

—Matthew S. Moore

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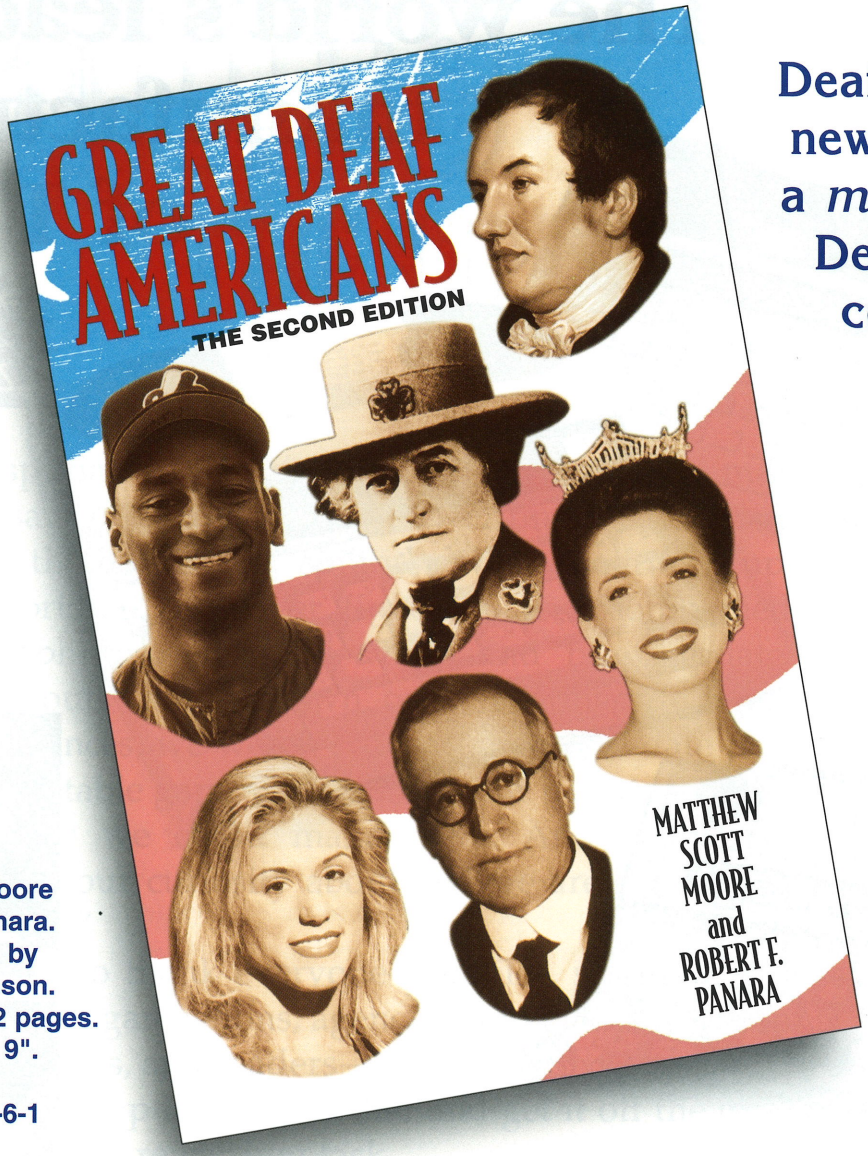
Our very own Hall of Fame!



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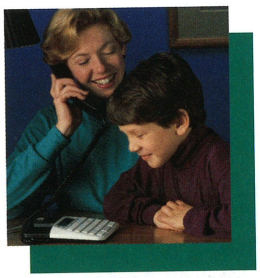

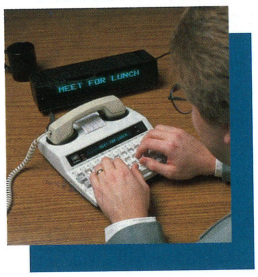

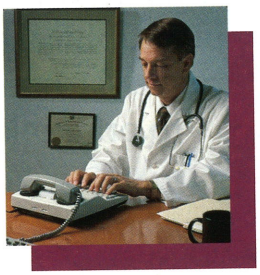

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Deaf Life

THE UPDATES

This special issue (Volume 11, Number 1), marks the tenth anniversary of **DEAF LIFE**. You will find all 120 issues represented here. To the best of our ability, we have followed up on all of our cover stories. Each cover (in color) is accompanied by a recent photograph (in black-and-white) and brief update text. A few "whereabouts" are unknown, or we simply didn't get a response. In a few instances, we weren't able to get up-to-date photos. There are a few inevitable gaps. Nonetheless, our updates are as complete and accurate as we could make them. And we think you'll enjoy satisfying your curiosity about "where are they now and what are they doing?"

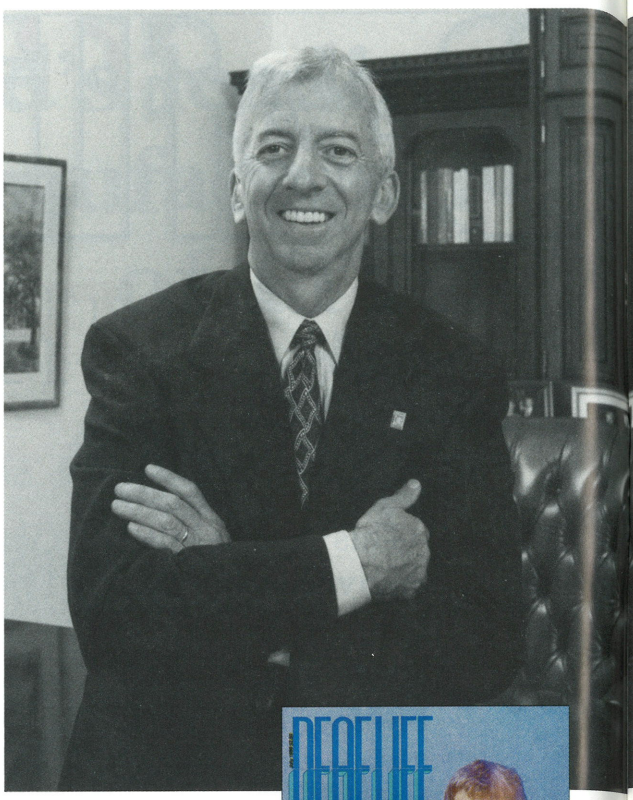
We'd like to thank everyone—profiles, secretaries, assistants, and PR people, organizations, agencies, and companies, families, friends, photographers, and readers—who provided information and photos and helped us pull this together and get it off the ground. It was an exhausting but rewarding task.

We hope that you enjoy our 10th Anniversary issue.

About the index . . .

A complete **Deaf Life** index (Trial Issue 1987 through June 1998) is available two ways: as a hard-copy printout ($5.00 postpaid), or on the **Deaf Life** Website at **http://www.deaflife.com/contents.html**

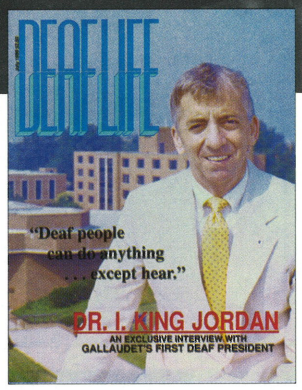
JULY 1988: DR. I. KING JORDAN



Looking back over the last decade, I realize that much has changed at Gallaudet. Some changes are quite visible, such as the renovations made to many campus buildings and the construction of our state-of-the-art Gallaudet University Kellogg Conference Center. More important have been the positive changes in attitude among deaf and hearing people alike. The focus today is on what deaf people can achieve when they are given fair access and equal opportunity.

Before DPN in 1988, Gallaudet was known best and almost exclusively by the Deaf Community. It was our University, our home-away-from-home, our source of pride and achievement. We simply weren't on hearing people's "radar screen." But when the national spotlight shifted to Gallaudet during DPN, the rest of the world 'discovered' us—and liked what it saw.

Since DPN, Gallaudet has gained international notoriety. We are no longer just another small American college. Today, Gallaudet is known the world over and every year our beautiful 99-acre campus in Northeast Washington, D.C. is visited by thousands and thousands of people—deaf and hearing alike—who come to learn from the research conducted by our faculty and to get a first-hand look at the place where DPN happened.



Sometimes Gallaudet's high visibility attracts the attention of people who, for whatever motives, are bent on tarnishing the University's image. This is not to say that we are above criticism, but there are some who don't bother to get the facts before lambasting Gallaudet for this or that perceived inadequacy. We have learned to take the good with the not-so-good, because we really believe what we say in our advertisements: "Deaf people can do anything, and at Gallaudet we prove it every day."

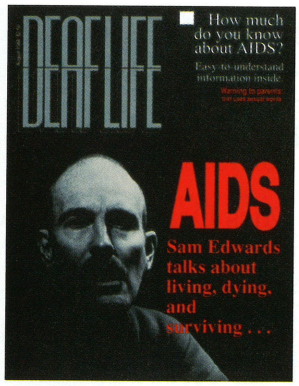
Since DPN, Gallaudet has been on a path of steady, upward development. The University is stronger than ever and through its strategic-planning process, more committed than ever to providing deaf and hard-of-hearing students with an education that will last a lifetime.

On a more personal level, there have been many changes in my life since DPN. For one thing, my hair is a lot more gray now! Also, I very much miss teaching and the daily interaction with students that comes with it. To compensate, I make myself available to speak in professors' classes whenever I am asked, and I regularly eat dinner in the cafeteria just to be with students. After all, they are the heart and soul of our University.

DPN stripped me of almost every shred of anonymity I may have enjoyed prior to March, 1988. I definitely wasn't prepared for the 'hero's role' that has become part of my being Gallaudet's first deaf president, but I accept it and do my best in it. No matter where I travel now, someone—usually another deaf person—will come up to me and say hello. Deaf children really seem to enjoy shaking hands with the president of Gallaudet.

One of the great benefits of this job is travel. My wife Linda and I have visited many places around the world on University business, places that I never thought I would see, including South Africa and Japan. In the process, we have met hundreds of wonderful people who are committed to improving the quality of life for deaf people in their countries. This is always an inspiring experience.

(GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY)



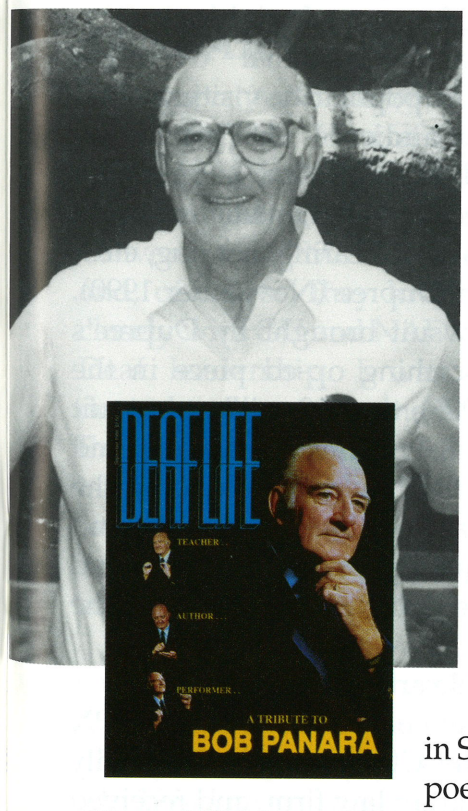
AUGUST 1988: SAM EDWARDS

Soon after he died of AIDS in May 1989, the New York Deaf Theatre announced its first Sam Edwards Deaf Playwrights Competition. Edwards had been a founding member of NYDT in 1979 and served on its board until his death.

Winners include Raymond Luczak, Aaron B. Weir, Terrylene Sacchetti, Michele Maureen Verhoosky, Shawn Lovley, and Gail Robin Grayson. NYDT's competition has been on hold lately due to the decreasing number of entries and increasing competition from other script contests. As with other small theaters, NYDT struggles to maintain itself financially. Government and corporate funding are down.

The Deaf community has been devastated by the impact of AIDS. All of us know people who died of AIDS or are HIV+. The battle for AIDS awareness (and for adequate program funding and staffing) is ongoing.

Deaf Life has published cover tributes to other notable Deaf persons who died of AIDS: Bruce Hlibok (September 1995), Alan R. "Al B." Barwiolek (July 1996), and Mark Branson (March 1997). Still others have been mentioned or eulogized in **Deaf Life Plus**. It's never something we can get used to.



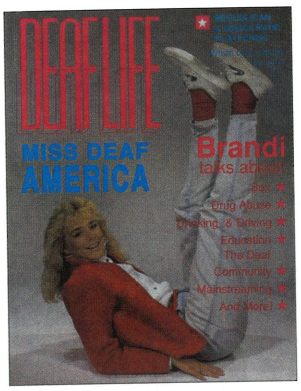
SEPTEMBER 1988: ROBERT F. PANARA

Bob Panara has been enjoying a busy post-retirement life. He has given presentations and conducted workshops at annual conferences of Support Service Personnel of Utica, Syracuse, Ithaca, Rochester, and Oswego, and lectured to high-school and college students on "Teaching Poetry," "Literature," "Deaf Characters in Fiction and Film," and "Great Deaf Americans." In May 1995, he received the Annual Bernard Bragg Artistic Achievement Award from Chicago's Center on Deafness.

As a founding member of the U.S.A. Deaf Sports Federation Committee for "Dummy" Hoy, Panara has given interviews to newspaper reporters, participated in rallies, gathered data, and written articles and letters, all as part of the campaign to get Hoy inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame. (See November 1992 and September 1997 updates.)

A completely revised and expanded edition of **Great Deaf Americans**, titled **Great Deaf Americans: The Second Edition**, written and designed by Matthew S. Moore, was published by Deaf Life Press in September 1996. A year later, Deaf Life Press published Panara's collected poems, **On His Deafness and Other Melodies Unheard**.

He and Shirley celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on July 12, 1997. He says: "At age 78, still enjoying 'Life With Shirley,' with our best friend, 'King Pup,' and the company of son John and family—wife Janis, grandson Bill (RIT) and granddaughter Erin (Monroe Community College). Also playing an occasional round of golf." During baseball season, he can be found at Frontier Field, Rochester's sleek new downtown stadium, rooting for the Red Wings.

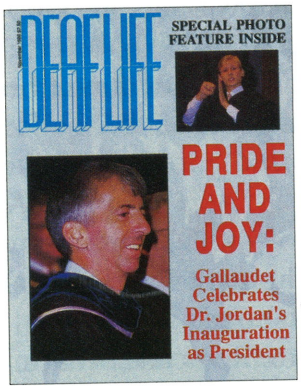


OCTOBER 1988: BRANDI RARUS MISS DEAF AMERICA 1988-90

We weren't able to reach Brandi Rarus directly, nor did we get a response to our inquiries.

Brandi Sculthorpe was the first Miss Deaf America to appear on our cover. After graduating from NTID in 1991, she married Tim Rarus (of DPN fame). When Tim took a job at Gallaudet University Regional Center at Johnson County Community College, they moved to Overland Park, Kansas. Shortly afterwards, Brandi landed a job as Account Manager of Sprint's Relay Missouri. She later became Account Manager of Relay Wyoming and Relay North Dakota, and Contract Manager of Relay South Dakota. At the beginning of 1997, she was promoted to Opportunity Manager for State and Local Government Sales, overseeing Sprint's nationwide TRS business opportunities.

Brandi and Tim Rarus now live in Austin, Texas. As far as we know, she has maintained her involvement with the Miss Deaf America Pageant.



NOVEMBER 1988: DR. JORDAN'S INAUGURATION

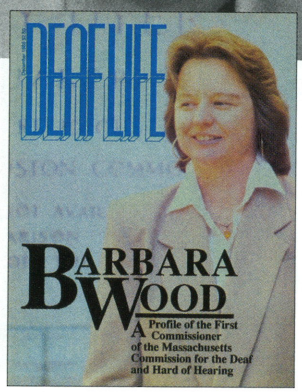
On October 21, 1988, Dr. Jordan was inaugurated as eighth president of Gallaudet University. Our November 1988 cover story was a photo-feature on this joyful occasion, the highlight of a week of campus festivities.

Dr. Jordan, who had become something of an international "overnight celebrity," continued to ride the crest of a wave of popularity, visiting other schools and giving talks about DPN to packed audiences. He proved an effective administrator who secured increased funding and support for Gallaudet. (Endowments have skyrocketed.) He has also proved a skilled diplomat, mediating, so to speak, between the factions on campus (oralist, signed-English, ASL, hard-of-hearing, hearing, etc.)

Controversies have continued to erupt on campus: the death of Carl Dupree (November 1990), after which Dr. Jordan was named one of the defendants in the lawsuit brought by Dupree's family; the 1992 "turn off your voice" controversy; Lew Golan's scathing op-ed piece in the **Washington Post** about Gallaudet's low literacy standards (March 1996); the $10-million lawsuit brought by four veteran English professors, Janice Becker, Dianne Falvo, Janet Gemmill, and Joanne Royce, charging that Gallaudet denied them tenure because of their public advocacy of the Bi-Bi approach (May 1996); the relentless criticism by Paulette R. Caswell, Otto J. Menzel, and others, of Gallaudet's accreditation, academic standards, and the quality of its programs and graduates; and mounting criticism by faculty and staff of Gallaudet's hiring policies and the dwindling ratio of deaf employees.

Throughout it all, Dr. Jordan has endured. He has remained accessible and approachable.

Greg Hlibok, Student Body Government president and the best-known of the four student DPN leaders, graduated from Gallaudet in 1990 (but is a member of the Class of '89). Originally planning to become a lawyer, he worked as a legal assistant at a Manhattan law firm, and received his Law degree from Hofstra University in 1994. He participated in the August 1994 protests at Lexington School for the Deaf (which were, in several ways, reminiscent of DPN), and worked in another legal firm as an attorney. In early 1997, he accepted a position as Financial Consultant at Merrill Lynch's Columbia, Maryland office, joining his older brother Stephen and Jennifer Beall—a pioneering team of Deaf stockbrokers.



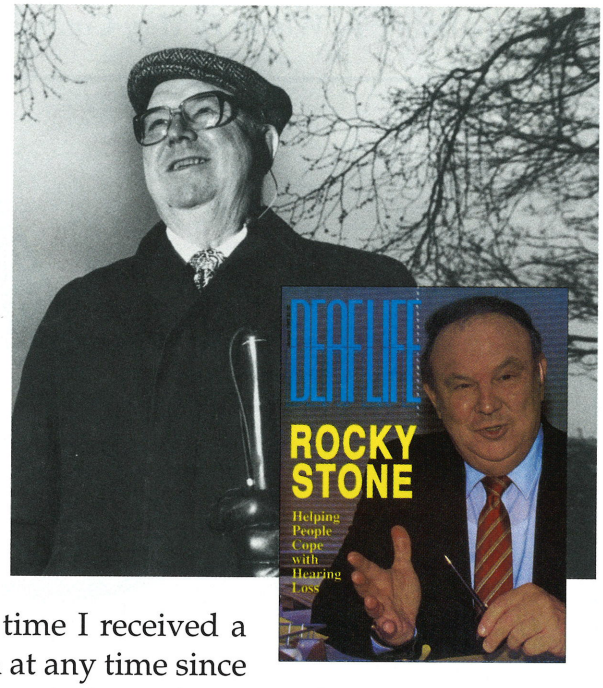
DECEMBER 1988: B.J. WOOD

Barbara Jean Wood, Commissioner of the Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, heads the statewide agency that coordinates services to deaf, hard-of-hearing, and deaf-blind constituents. She serves as liaison between the Deaf community and the governor and legislature. She's also a popular keynote speaker and community activist—and one of our most prominent leaders.

Recent improvements include CART (computer-assisted real-time notetaking), interpreter services, telecommunications access, advocacy, public education, and ADA compliance.

Wood tells us: "As I glimpse back over my nearly 12 years as Commissioner, I take pleasure in seeing the many changes and advancements in community and governmental services and programs for which MCDHH was instrumental in fostering and continues to provide leadership for further developments. We've come a long way over the last 12 years. I am very proud of the role that MCDHH has played in the empowerment of the Massachusetts' Deaf and hard-of-hearing communities, the development of community leaders, the establishment of specialized services, the progress that continues to be made, and the insistence of a standard of quality and the acceptance of nothing less."

JANUARY 1989: ROCKY STONE



Having retired as the founder and first Executive Director of Self Help for Hard of Hearing People, Inc. (SHHH), Howard E. "Rocky" Stone has stayed involved and active:

I received a Doctor of Laws from Gallaudet University in 1992. I signed my very brief comments and, of course, they loved it. I have always worked closely with GU and NAD. I have many friends among Deaf leadership. I was impressed with the GU doctorate because some Deaf people saw me as the Enemy and this sent a clear signal that I was a Friend.

I retired from SHHH in June 1993. Shortly [afterwards], I noticed my vision seemed to be deteriorating. It was dry macular degeneration which soon turned wet. By January of '94 I was blind.

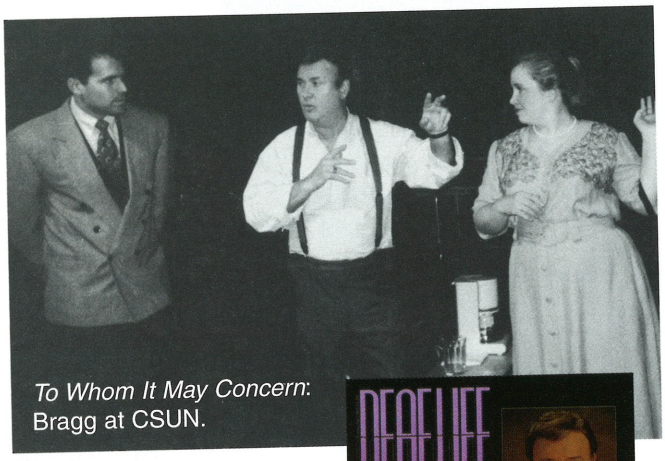
I remained deaf and blind for 6 months, after which time I received a cochlear implant. It saved my life. I now hear better than at any time since I was 19 years old. I use a computer and continue to be very independent. Based on my experience, I can easily agree with Helen Keller that deafness is much more difficult than blindness.

In 1994 I resumed my speaking engagements. In 1996 I was elected president of the International Federation of Hard of Hearing People. I have traveled [extensively with Ahme], giving speeches and attending meetings. A very busy life.

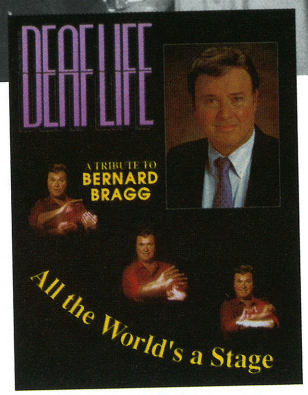
Hopefully, with the new voice-to-text technology, I will find writing much easier and will be well into that mode when I retire at age 75.

God has been very good to me and my already-full life continues to burgeon.

FEBRUARY 1989: BERNARD BRAGG



To Whom It May Concern: Bragg at CSUN.



Bernard Bragg continues to perform, write, translate, lecture, conduct workshops, teach drama, and travels extensively, presenting one-man performances based on his experiences growing up deaf, and on "Visual Vernacular," a form of mime using cinematic techniques.

In 1994, he completed a 15-year stint as Visiting Professor and artist-in-residence at Gallaudet University. **Meeting Halfway in American Sign Language**, which Bragg co-authored with Jack R. Olson of Montana State University, was published as Deaf Life Press' second book.

Between travels, Bragg performed in several Deaf West Theatre productions. In Fall 1995, he worked with the leading German Theatre of the Deaf on a new play, ***On the Eve of the Golden Wedding Anniversary***. In 1996, he embarked on cross-country tours of his one-man show in Germany and Japan, doing book-signings for his autobiography **Lessons in Laughter** (1989), which had been translated into Japanese.

He appeared in Stephen Sachs' premiere production of ***Sweet Nothing in My Ear***, and got rave reviews. (See July 1997 update). Last November, he received Fanwood's prestigious Founders' Day Award. He recently co-wrote a one-act play with Alek Friedman, ***To Whom It May Concern***, and directed a March production at CSUN.

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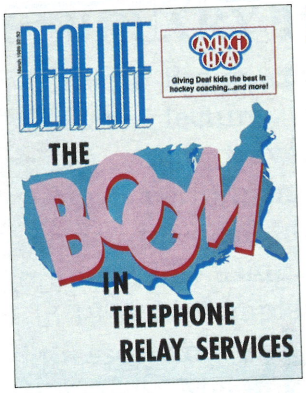
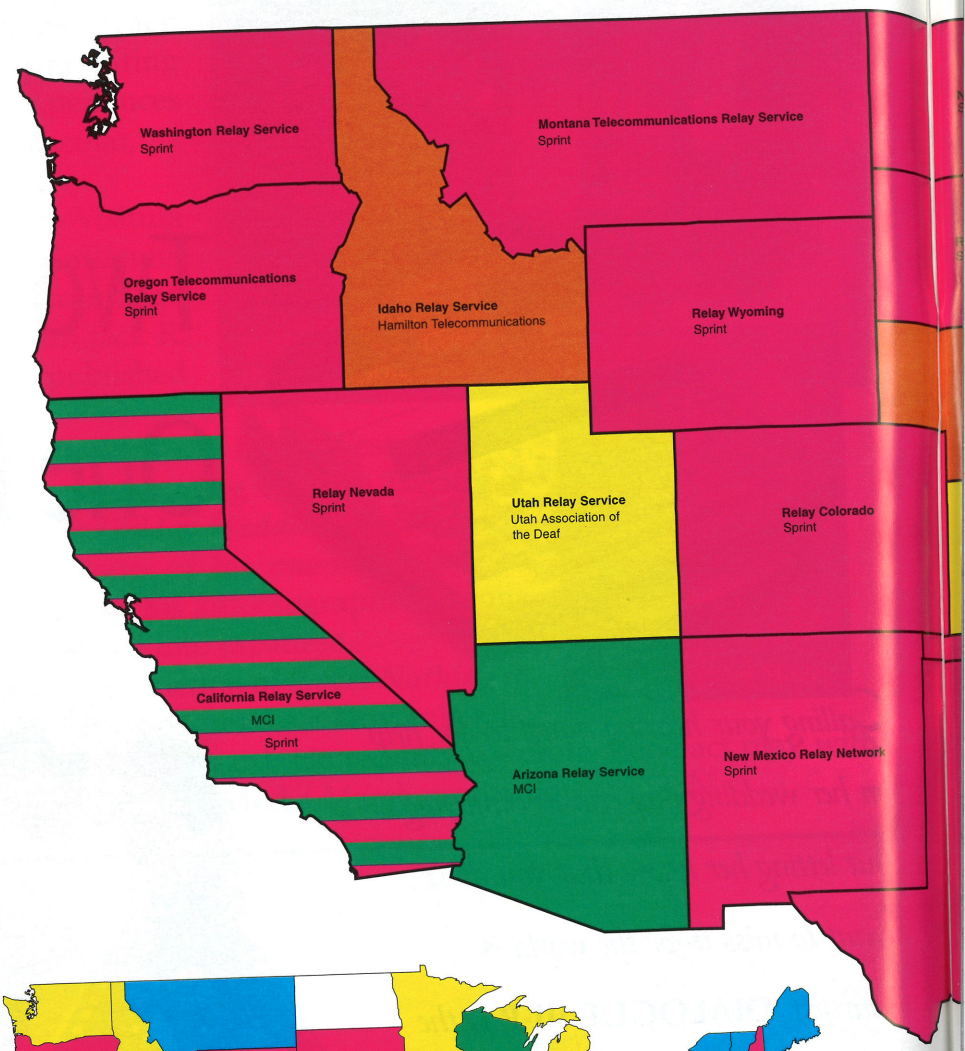
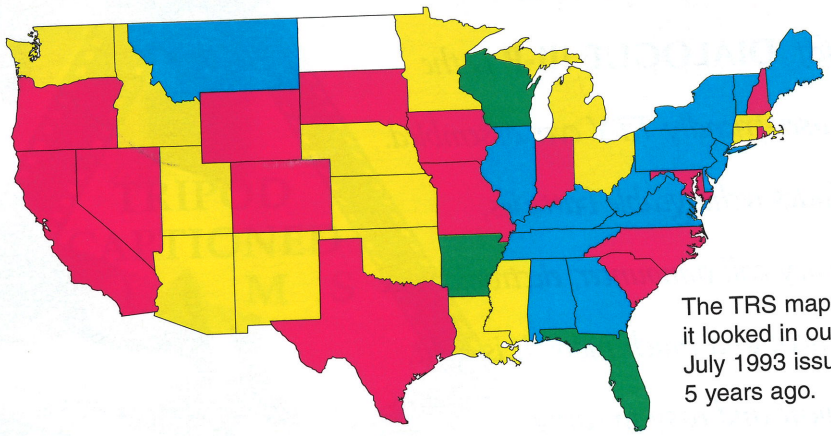
MARCH 1989: THE BOOM IN RELAY SERVICES



Over the past 5 years, the telephone-relay-service (TRS) picture has changed dramatically. 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week relay service is now a reality in all 50 states and several U.S. territories. The four major TRS providers (Sprint, AT&T, MCI, and Hamilton), and the smaller ones, offer long-distance interstate and international service, and a number of communication options: e.g., VCO (voice carryover) and ASCII.

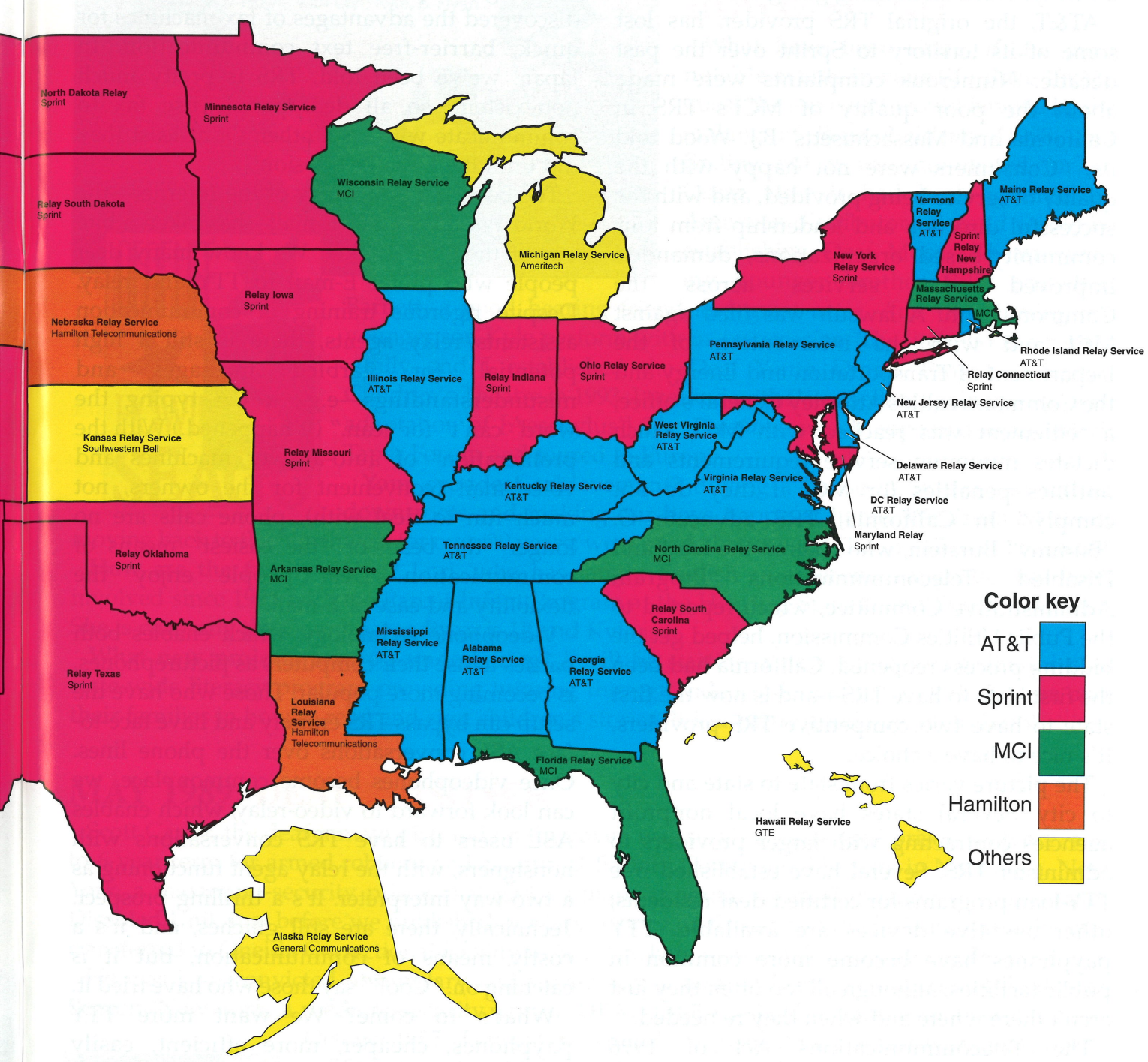




The TRS map as it looked in our July 1993 issue, 5 years ago.

We still have vivid memories of life before statewide relay services were established. Those who could afford it (i.e., businesspeople) hired a private relay service. The one we used ("Mini-Line") had limits on the number of calls that could be made at one time, and on the length of each call. The hours of operation were also limited. Still, it was worth it. The less desirable alternative was to use the overburdened local public-relay service ("Hi-Line"), staffed by dedicated staff, which had further limitations (only one call allowed at a time) plus a high "blockage rate" (the technical term for a persistent° busy signal). Trying to break past a busy signal, dialing and redialing for up to half-an-hour at a stretch, was not at all uncommon. There was limited or no service on weekends or holidays. The remaining alternative was to find a hearing friend (or stranger) and have them make the call for us—a humiliating situation. Or do without making the call at all.

That was the not-so-distant past. A few years before the passage of the ADA, things began changing. After the passage of the ADA, things *really* started happening—fast. The ADA mandated complete interstate TRS by July 26,



1993, the third anniversary of its passage. Telecommunications providers scrambled to get the state contracts, hire and train their personnel, and set up their operations. Zoom! Zip! Whammo! State after state became accessible. The lines were buzzing. The way we communicated changed.

The problem now is trying to keep abreast of the dizzying changes. (Not to mention the exasperating° changes in area codes.) The **Blue Book**, the annual directory of U.S. and international TTY numbers published by Telecommunications for the Deaf, Inc. (TDI), has grown thicker each year. A useful E-mail bulletin, Electronic TRS Forum (eTRSf), publishes periodic listings of relay numbers,

updates, and service-provider switches. There is always some reshuffling going on.

AT&T, the original TRS provider, has lost some of its territory to Sprint over the past decade. Numerous complaints were made about the poor quality of MCI's TRS in California and Massachusetts. B.J. Wood told us, "Consumers were not happy with the quality of service being provided, and with the successful direction and leadership from four community-based organizations, demanded improved relay services across the Commonwealth. A lawsuit was filed against MCI and with the intervention of the Department of Transportation and Energy and the Commonwealth's Attorney General's office, a settlement was reached with MCI which dictates minimum service requirements and outlines penalties for MCI if they do not comply." In California, TRS advocate G. "Bummy" Burstein, who chaired the Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program Administrative Committee, which reported to the Public Utilities Commission, helped get the bidding process reopened. California had been the first state to have TRS—and is now the first state to have two competitive TRS providers. It's nice to have a choice.

The picture varies from state to state and city to city. Several states have local nonprofit agencies contracting with larger providers to administer TRS. Several have established free TTY-loan programs for certified deaf residents; other assistive devices are available. TTY payphones have become more common in public facilities, although all too often they just aren't there where and when they're needed.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 mandates changes that will ultimately affect, and benefit, TTY users. Progress has been made in getting 711 and 511 reserved for TTY-users' use in emergencies. Emergency 911 access and emergency captioning are two of our ongoing concerns.

No doubt about it—our communication options have been steadily expanding over the past decade. But TTYs are *still* an expense. Compact, portable TTYs are handy, but not everyone can afford one.

During the past decade, deaf people have discovered the advantages of fax machines for quick, barrier-free text communication. In Japan, we've been told, TRS is pretty much nonexistent, so all deaf people use fax to communicate with each other. Or at least they did until the E-mail explosion!

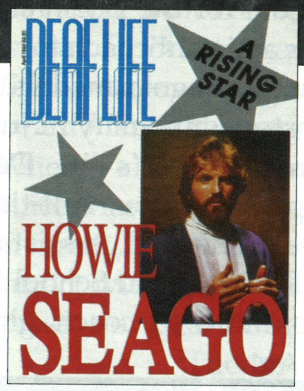
The booming popularity of the Internet—the World Wide Web and E-mail—has taken a bite out of the TTY market. We know many deaf people who prefer E-mail to TTY and relay. Despite rigorous training of communication assistants/relay agents, there is still a high potential for garbled messages and misunderstandings—e.g., a CA typing the word "can't" for "can." (It happened.) With the proliferation° of auto-answer machines and voice mail (convenient for the owners, not much fun to deal with), phone calls are no longer "the best" or "the easiest" means of communication. Deaf people enjoy the flexibility and ease of E-mail.

Videophone technology, which enables both parties to use their computers as picturephones, is becoming more popular. Those who have the setup can bypass TRS entirely and have face-to-face ASL conversations over the phone lines. Once videophones become commonplace, we can look forward to video-relay, which enables ASL users to have TRS conversations with nonsigners, with the relay agent functioning as a two-way interpreter. It's a thrilling prospect. Technically, there are still glitches, and it's a costly means of communication, but it *is* catching on. "Cool!" say those who have tried it.

What's to come? We want more TTY payphones, cheaper, more efficient, easily available TTYs, and high-quality telecommunications services. Will videophone technology revolutionize TRS? We certainly looked forward to what we have now. The situation is far from ideal. One thing is for sure: we're going to go forward, not back.

persistent: continuous..
exasperating: (*adjective*) annoying; disturbing.
proliferation: (*noun*) rapid increase.

Howie with Lori, Kyle, & Ryan.



APRIL 1989: HOWIE SEAGO

What have been some of the most notable events in your life since 1993? I guess the top event would have to be the making of ***Beyond Silence*** [1998] and finding out it was nominated for an Oscar after it had been ignored by American distributors. Second would be establishing Deaf Moose Theatre with my younger brother Billy and Bob Barnett, a good hearing friend and great actor. And then having my younger son Kyle perform with us on occasion. The little kid is a ham.

Billy and I established the Deaf Youth Drama Project at Seattle Children's Theatre in 1993. I worked with Peter Sellars again in a modern adaptation of [Aeschylus'] ***The Persians***, which appeared at the Mark Taper Forum and toured in Europe.

Your proudest achievement? Buying a house in Seattle and setting down roots and making our boys happy at home. We dreamed about moving back to the Northwest for over 20 years; we moved almost every 3 years all over the States.

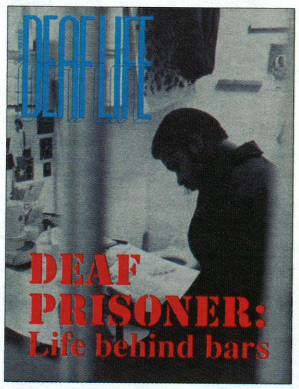
How are the family doing? Lori, who has taught English as a Second Language, has been involved since 1993 with the Parent-Infant Program at the Hearing, Speech, and Deafness Center. She is currently the Coordinator. Ryan is 12 and Kyle is 8.

What new projects are you undertaking? I will be starting a new job as a coordinator of a state-wide literacy program providing tutoring through videoconferencing to Deaf children and their families in how to read and sign children's stories. It is a pretty good day job to keep!

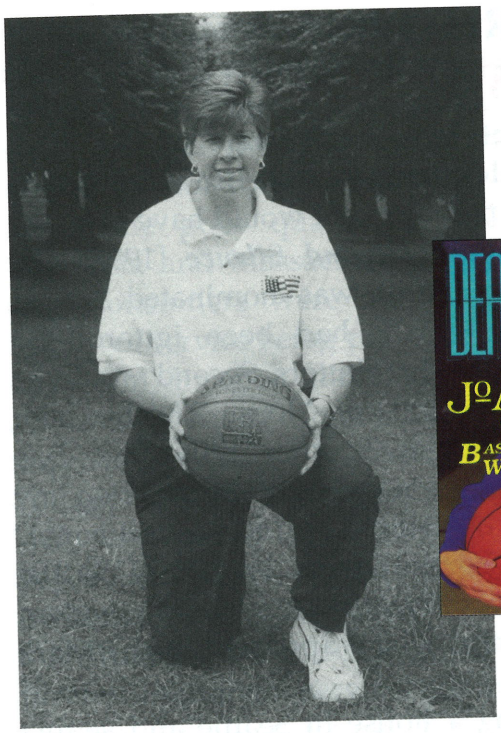
MAY 1989: DEAF PRISONER

Scott Carter, the deaf inmate pictured on the cover, was serving his second prison sentence, a 3-to-6-year term for armed robbery and assault, at Eastern Correctional Facility in Napanoch, New York, a maximum-security prison that had a unique program for deaf inmates: the Sensorially Disabled Unit. Just before we published our 2-part story on Carter and the SDU program, he was transferred to Oneida Correctional Facility in Rome, where he was released October 28, 1990.

He was later convicted of burglary and served a new term at Fishkill Correctional Facility in Beacon, New York, a medium-security prison. **DEAF LIFE** received a form letter from him (see October 1995 "Letters") in which he explained that he was working towards a GED, attending AA and NA meetings, and seeking placement in a drug-treatment program. He wrote: "My incarceration stem[s] from a conviction for a class 'D' felony (burglary) in which I am serving a 2-1/2 to 5-year sentence." He was scheduled to be released in February 1996, but was not.

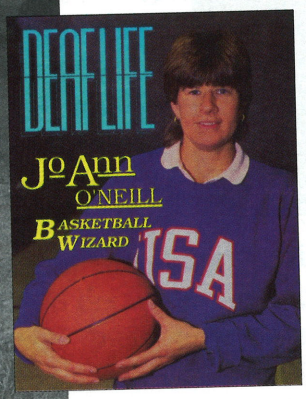


Linda Foglia, Assistant Public Relations Officer at the New York Department of Correctional Services, brings us up to date: "Scott Carter (94-B-0248) is incarcerated at the Wyoming Correctional Facility [in] Attica, and has been held in our custody since February 1, 1994. Although he has been eligible for parole since February 1996, he remains incarcerated and will be reappearing before the parole board in December 1999."



JUNE 1989: JO-ANN O'NEILL

Jo-Ann O'Neill is still doing what she loves best—playing basketball, coaching, and teaching. She recently became the first woman in Rhode Island to coach a boys' team. (And, yes, she got respect! This is an adaptation of her statements.)



I've been playing basketball since I was 7. I was involved with the World Games for the Deaf USA Women's Basketball Team in 1981, 1985, and 1989, as player and co-captain. Each time, I won a gold medal for the USA Team. In 1993 and 1997, I was assistant coach for the team and both times we won gold medals.

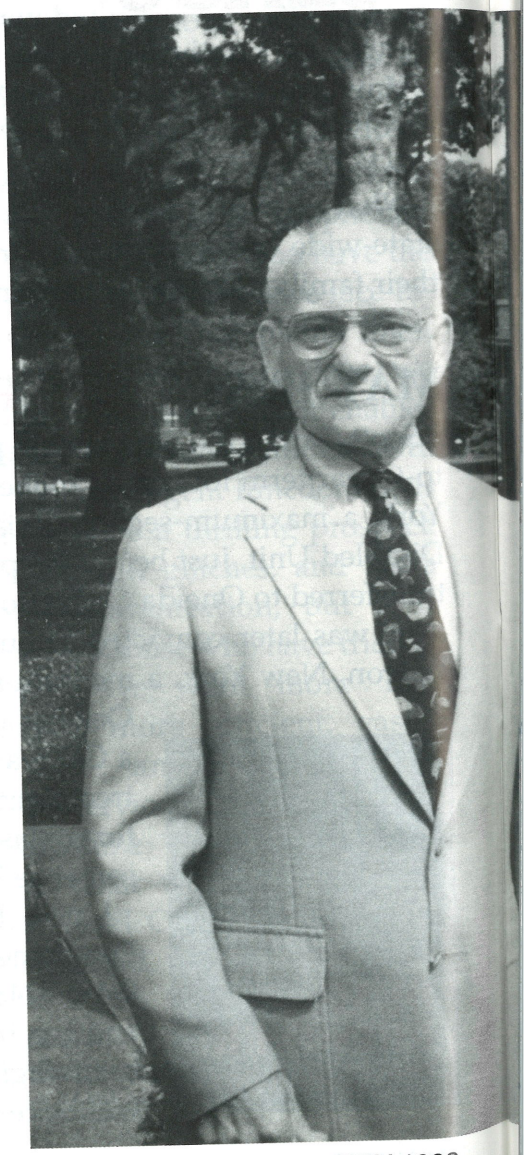
I graduated from Boston University in June 1994, completing my Master's in Deaf Education. I am presently a full-time elementary-school teacher and Assistant Coach for the girls' basketball team at Rhode Island School for the Deaf (my *alma mater*). I will continue to coach girls' basketball (Middle School and Junior Varsity) next year. I really enjoy teaching the players the strategies of practice and games. RISD will host the Eastern boys' and girls' basketball tournament next year.

My philosophy is based on the importance of teamwork. Whether I'm on the court playing or coaching, my mind is always on team-building and working together.

I'm also an instructor of American Sign Language at Holy Cross College. All my students are hearing freshmen and sophomores. We use the Vista **Signing Naturally** curriculum, Level 2.

I am still actively involved in athletics [outside of school]. I played basketball for the Worcester Deaf Club's Women's Basketball Team last year. My other hobbies are golf, jogging, and weightlifting.

RISD High School Principal James F. Cooney adds: "We are really proud of Jo-Ann . . . she is our 'cover girl' everyday."



JULY 1989: OUR 1st YEAR

Our First Anniversary issue featured the first 12 covers on the front cover, and we on the Deaf Life staff recall how proud we were of that issue. It represented a milestone in our own history: "One whole year—we did it!" We had indeed survived.

Since then, the back cover of every July issue has featured an "overview" design of the previous 12 months' covers.

AUGUST 1989: FRANK TURK

Dr. Frank R. Turk served with distinction as Director of North Carolina's Department of Human Resources' Division of Services for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing from 1991 to 1996. He oversaw programs and services for some 650,000 deaf and hard-of-hearing people, the three state schools for the deaf at Morganton, Wilson (East), and Greensboro (Central), 26 preschool satellite centers, and 6 regional-resource centers for adult services.

Dr. Turk fought to keep CNCSD open in 1992. In late 1994, CNCSD was again threatened with closure due to planned state-budget cuts. He supported a controversial plan to consolidate the NCSD and ENCSD. But the state allocated additional funding for all three schools, and CNCSD was saved—and its future looks secure.

He retired from DHDSS in 1996, moved to Frederick, Maryland, and took the new position of Special Assistant for Development at the NAD, beginning March 1, 1997. His beloved wife, Marilyn, who was also active in community affairs, died in May 1997 after a 15-month bout with cancer, shortly after Gallaudet awarded him an honorary Doctor of Laws. He remains active in the YLC and national Deaf affairs.

Where I am and what I am doing nowadays:

Since March 1997, I am officially "retired" after 45 years of full-time employment at Gallaudet University, South Dakota School for the Deaf, and North Carolina's DSDHH. I am currently on contract with the NAD as special assistant to the Executive Director for Development and adjunct professor of Deaf Education at Western Maryland College in Westminster.

The NAD "Tree of Life" Endowment Campaign, my primary responsibility, is an umbrella effort made up of four burses or endowment funds: a fund for a year-round centrally-located multipurpose retreat/training facility; a fund for youth-leadership development, educational support, and after-school activities; a fund for state-associations training/reciprocity; and a fund for parent-consumer partnerships. The ultimate goal is to develop a permanent financial base specific to the ability of the NAD to safeguard the civil rights and accessibility of the 28,000,000 deaf and hard-of-hearing Americans being entrusted to its care.

The "Tree of Life" project reached the 100,000 mark in March and the next goals are $500,000 by December 31, 1998 and $1 million by December 1999. Interest from the four aforementioned funds, when their respective dollar goals are achieved, will be used to help finance the work of the NAD in partnership with state associations, consumer-based and parent organizations, educational institutions, and other groups associated with deafness and hearing loss. In a nutshell, this is a concentrated effort to develop nationwide collaboration and partnership central to best possible American life for all concerned.

My other NAD activities include speaking assignments, training workshops, dissemination, and advocacy across the nation as requested by the NAD executive director or by invitation.

Adjunct professorship at Western Maryland College involves the following graduate courses: Deaf Education: Empowering Education and Deaf Education: Inviting School Success.

I am "retired," yes, but not retired, *per se*. It seems that, this past year alone, I have found myself running just to stay where I am much more often than I did during my entire 45-year career. People tell me this is good for me at this particular stage of my life so I am not complaining. As a matter of fact, it has been a special privilege and honor to be an integral part of the outstanding programs at the NAD and Western Maryland College, particularly the people associated with them.

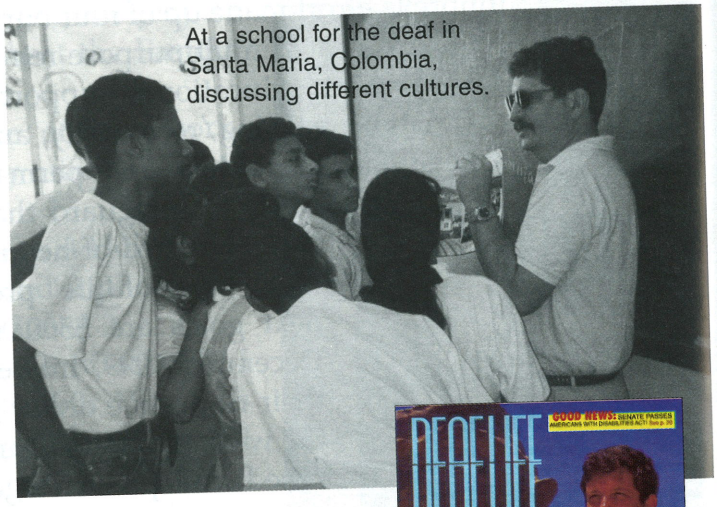
SEPTEMBER 1989: THE DEAF WAY

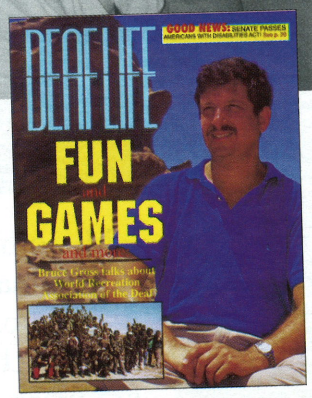
The DEAF WAY International Conference and Festival (July 9 to 14, 1989) was the biggest Deaf-oriented event—ever. (Estimated turnout: 6,000+ from 76 nations.) It was an overwhelming experience, with crowds, chaos, cancellations and reschedulings, and confusion galore. But in a sense, none of that mattered—much. Just being there was an education. Deaf people came from every continent, and a squad of interpreters were kept busy translating British, Finnish, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Swedish, and Thai sign languages into ASL. There was real-time captioning with blowup screens and TV monitors, and personal interpreters for deaf-blind attendees. There were arts and handicrafts (and lots of other stuff) for sale, an art exhibit, videos, presentations, papers, workshops, networking, cameras popping, and people signing *everywhere*.

Daytime conference sessions were held in the OMNI Shoreham Hotel. Sixteen plenary addresses were given throughout the week by leaders, teachers, advocates, storytellers, and artists from several nations. Evening festival events were held on Gallaudet's Kendall Green campus. A vast "International Deaf Club" tent featured a variety of attractions.

In February 1998, Dr. Jordan announced that plans were underway for DEAF WAY 2, probably in 2000. Harvey Goodstein, NAD Past President, is chairing the planning committee.

OCTOBER 1989: BRUCE GROSS AND WRAD


At a school for the deaf in Santa Maria, Colombia, discussing different cultures.



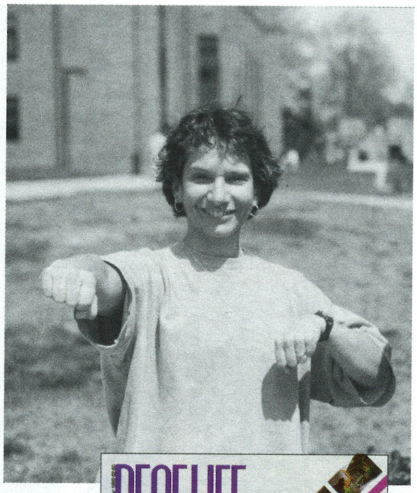
Bruce Gross, founder and International President of World Recreation of the Deaf, still lives in Palmdale, California, and reports that WRAD continues to grow, locally, nationally, and internationally. The are National Groups in the U.S., France, Britain, Germany, Turkey, and South Africa. "We are close to starting new Groups in Russia, Canada, the Philippines, Australia, Colombia, and Brazil. The United States continue to provide different recreational activities and the Chapters are doing well—from Rochester, New York to SCRAD and NCRAD in California. We now have more Special Interest Groups of WRAD being formed to meet interests of our members from the Local to the International level—they include but are not limited to the following: motor sports, mountain climbing, motorcycling, surfing, aviation (including hang-gliding), West Hollywood Friends for Gays and Lesbians, and others." WRAD has its own Webpage, and there are plans to provide pages for chapters and SIGs.

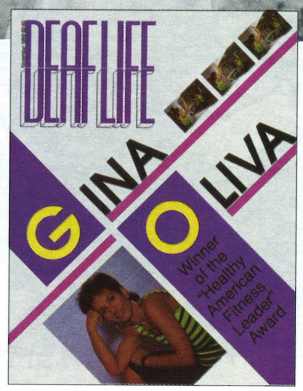
"Last summer we hosted a successful Beach Party in Copenhagen in conjunction to the World Games for the Deaf. We have plans to have WRAD-related activities during the WGD in Italy in 2001."

Handbooks for the National Groups and Chapters are being revised. "The WRAD-USA Group was recently restructured and a new Board of Directors were elected."

About his everyday life, Gross says, "I continue to work with the Los Angeles County Office of Education as an Itinerant Teacher of the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing. I am also a Technology Teacher Leader, helping teachers to be computer-literate."

NOVEMBER 1989: GINA OLIVA





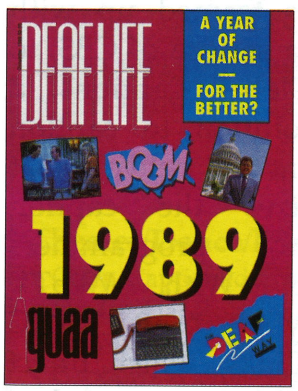
Time sure flies when you are busy and having fun! Since 1992, I have been on the faculty in the Department of Physical Education and Recreation at Gallaudet University. My work with undergraduates has sparked a new interest in literacy, and I have been very involved in research in this area. With my regular teaching assignments (which include various aerobic-exercise and weight-training classes), committees and research, I still manage to find some time to continue promotion of fitness for deaf persons.

This year, I have two projects. One, I co-authored an article for SHHH's **Hearing Loss** (November/December 1997) about the detrimental effects of exposure to loud music in group-exercise classes. Two, I have been mentoring an energetic and ambitious young deaf woman from Norway, Siv Fosshaug. Siv is at Gallaudet as a special student, having already completed her B.S. from the Norwegian University of Sport and Physical Education. She has certification as an aerobics instructor, and I have been sharing with her my visual-cueing system and many projects that still need doing for deaf and hard-of-hearing persons to have full access to society's benefits in the area of exercise. We plan to continue our association and hope to accomplish more of our now mutual goals in Europe as well as in the USA.

In 1995, Kathryne E. "Keo" Opton of Massachusetts told us, "It was your magazine that led me to my life's work! When you ran an article about Gina Oliva a few years back, I wrote her a letter asking how I could become involved in making fitness accessible to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community." She runs her own personal-training business, "Keonetics," is a student of homeopathy, and volunteers for ***Caitlin's Rainbow****, a local TV program for children (in voice and ASL)—among other activities! She says:*

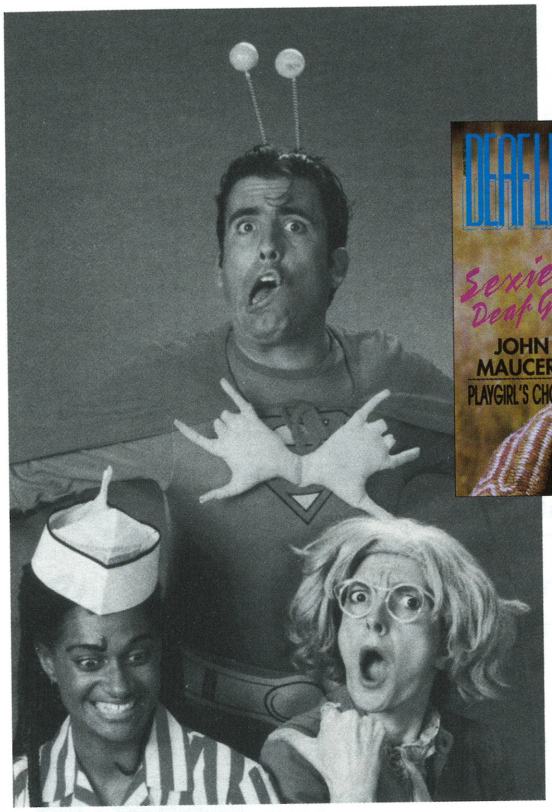
I am developing a visual-cueing workshop based on Gina's system for the New England Aquatics Professionals (NEAP). (Gina's system is readily accepted by water teachers since acoustics are so poor in public-pool settings; many hearing teachers experience vocal abuse. They relish the thought and practice of silent cues.)

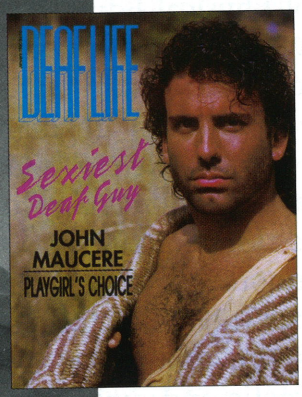
Although we are communicating less frequently now, Gina knows I have tried to carry the ball to the other side of the court as she coached from the sidelines. She is and still remains my professional role model and dear, dear, friend.



DECEMBER 1989: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

This issue focused on a most eventful year, from a Deaf perspective. Notable events: for the first time, all prime-time programming on the 3 broadcast networks was closed-captioned; more states set up full-time TRS, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) proposed a nationwide telephone-relay system; Dr. Robert Davila became the new head of OSERS; The DEAF WAY was an international smash; Gallaudet University marked its 125th anniversary, and the Gallaudet University Alumni Association, its first century; Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa reintroduced the ADA, which passed the Senate, 76-8, and was now in the House; and pocket-sized TTYs hit the market. The December 1989 issue also contained the first installment of **Deaf Life Plus.** The first **Deaf Life Plus** (16 pages) increased the size of the magazine by a third. With the March 1990 issue, **Deaf Life** had doubled in size from its original 32 pages.





JANUARY 1990: JOHN MAUCERE

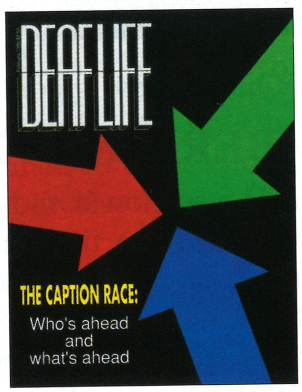
John Maucere toured with the National Theatre of the Deaf from 1992 to 1994, and appeared in Deaf West Theatre's ***Of Mice and Men****. In 1996, he founded Deafywood Production Company, a traveling vaudeville-style ensemble of Deaf performers who do topical comedy skits, satire, parodies, and dance numbers—all in ASL, making a totally Deaf show. Deafywood premiered at Temple Beth Solomon in Arleta, California (where the Los Angeles Club of the Deaf now meets) on December 28, 1996, to a sold-out crowd. This is adapted from his statement:*

What I have been doing in the last 5 years: I completed my B.A. degree in Deaf Studies at CSUN. Worked as an ASL Instructor at Pierce College and Pasadena Community College. Was involved with DawnSignPress as an actor in **Signing Naturally**, Levels 3 and 4 videos, soon to be released. Modeled for Ameriphone advertisement, soon to be released. Currently employed at Los Angeles Superior Courts as an intermediary interpreter. Also work as a rater for American Sign Language Proficiency Interview (ASLPI) exams.

My greatest accomplishments are getting a degree in Deaf Studies and establishing Deafywood Production Company.

I idolize George Veditz [1861-1937], who was President of the NAD in the early 1900s. He produced a film that portrayed himself declaring the preservation of sign language. And because of [this], I'd like to follow in his steps by preserving Deaf culture and its language, American Sign Language, thus Deafywood!

FEBRUARY 1990: THE CAPTION RACE



Laura K. Doty, Communications Manager at VITAC (CaptionAmerica back in 1990), provided an update.

Yes, Jeff Hutchins and Joe Karlovits are still with VITAC. Karlovits is President, and Hutchins is Executive Vice President of Planning & Development.

Since 1990, the amount of programming that VITAC captions has increased at a rate of 30 to 40% each year! VITAC is now captioning over 280 hours of programming per week. VITAC has not seen too much growth because of the August 1997 FCC Ruling *yet*, but is expecting and is prepared for much growth in the coming years.

We have three top news stories right now. The first two are our alliances with Group W Network Services and WebTV Networks, Inc. VITAC has teamed up with Group W, a service of CBS, to provide Global Captions, a turnkey solution to caption management and delivery that revolutionizes the caption process for programmers worldwide. With WebTV Networks, Inc., owned by Microsoft, VITAC provides TV Crossover Links, which direct viewers to specific Websites as they simultaneously watch programs. VITAC encodes these links using the same technology

that is used to encode captions in television programs. The third top news story is that Marlee Matlin is now our spokesperson.

A QUICK LOOK BACK . . .

Since we published our February 1990 cover story, "The Caption Race," the captioning industry has experienced tremendous growth. The number of captioning companies has multiplied from the original "Big Three" (The Caption Center at WGBH in Boston, NCI in Vienna, Virginia, and VITAC in Pittsburgh) to satellite offices and dozens of smaller competing companies throughout the nation.

Many changes have occurred since our 5th-anniversary update. Not all have been positive. Some local-news stations that once used real-time captioning have switched to the cheaper "solution" of electronic-newsroom captions, which are generated from the newsroom script projected to the anchors at their desks. Dialogue not on the script and last-minute insertions are broadcast *without* captions.

We have more captioned TV commercials and cable programming, although the cable situation is still, on the whole, unsatisfactory. The home-video situation is likewise "mixed." Digital videodiscs and Internet are new captioning frontiers.

TRIPOD's Captioned Films program open-captions a small number of prints of a few selected movies for screening in a few theaters to lucky viewers. Experimental approaches, such as caption-decoding eyeglasses, enable deaf and hearing viewers to watch the same movie together.

Emergency-caption access (during floods, tornadoes, and hurricanes) is still a *real* problem. Some Congressmen seek to exert control over which programs should get federally-funded captioning and which ones ("trash TV") shouldn't.

Still, captioning has become a fact of life in the United States. It's something we wouldn't want to do without, but can't yet take for granted.

Congratulates

DeafLife

on its 10th anniversary of keeping the community informed, entertained, and enlightened!

Celebrate Deaf Awareness every month! with Access-to-the-Arts in your area.

Theater/Dance/Films/Classes/Programs/Events

- Open-Captioned First-Run American Movies
- Deaf & Hard-of-Hearing Performing Artists
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- Caption~~Connection: the new Video-Captioning service for families, libraries, schools, organizations, government agencies, and businesses. Get YOUR family, promotional, & instructional videos captioned by Creative Access! For brochure & membership info, contact:

Creative Access, 108 E. Market St., 2nd Floor Philadelphia, PA 19106
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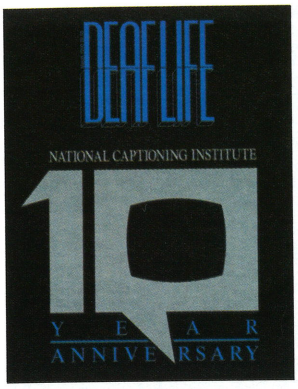
Coming up:

- ***Zoofari:*** a sign-interpreted safari to Kenya, August 6-15, 1999. Preview & slideshow: Sunday, Sept. 13, 4 p.m., Philadelphia Zoo
- ***Rent***, Sept. 12, 2 p.m., Merriam Theatre
- 15% Off Day at Bloomingdale's: October 7, at Plymouth Meeting & King of Prussia Mall. One day only. Get great buys on all purchases and raise $$$ for Creative Access! Order your tickets now.
- ***Phantom of the Opera***: Saturday, November 7, Forrest Theatre, Philadelphia
- ***42nd Street***: Friday & Saturday, November 20 & 21, Media Theater
- Pennsylvania Ballet's ***Nutcracker*** and Freedom Theatre's ***Black Nativity*** in Dec.
- Deaf Artists'/Filmmakers Festival, TBA



MARCH 1990: NCI'S 10th ANNIVERSARY

Betty Hallman, Vice President of Marketing at the National Captioning Institute, comments on NCI's growth during the past 8 years.

1990 marked the beginning of NCI's second decade. Congress continued its support of captioning with the inclusion of mandatory-captioning requirements in the Telecommunications Act of 1996. As a result of this legislation, the FCC issued rules requiring the captioning of 95% of new television programming by 2006 and also ruled that 75% of programming first aired prior to 1998 must be captioned by 2008.

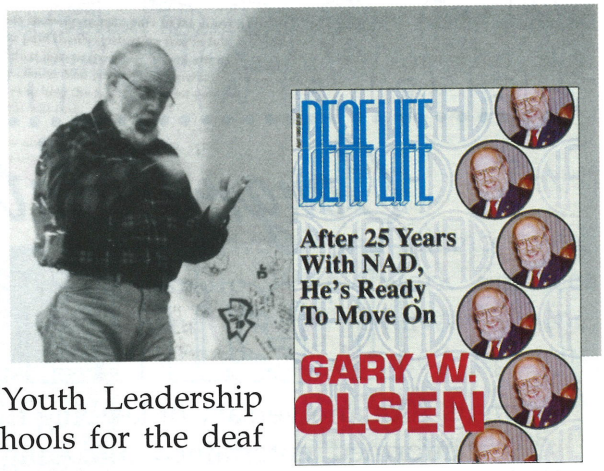
NCI was fortunate to have Philip W. Bravin serving as president—the only deaf president of a captioning company. His goal: to have all television programming captioned 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

When Bravin left NCI in 1996 to return to his family in New York, Myron P. Curzan took over as Chief Executive Officer. His mission: to increase the level of captioned programming in the U.S. and worldwide. To help handle the growing level of international work, NCI partnered with the European Captioning Institute, a London-based company that specializes in closed-captioning of home videos and foreign-language subtitling.

Both NCI and ECI provide captioning and subtitling in multiple languages for home videocassettes and the latest home-viewing technologies: DVD and DIVX. Both DVD and DIVX disks are similar in size to music CDs, but can hold an entire full-length motion picture, along with closed-captions. DVD also offers optional subtitles in several languages.

NCI is expanding its effort to bring captioned videos into more classrooms. Work is also progressing on the development of personal captioning-display eyeglasses for viewers of non-televised events such as movies and live presentations.

APRIL 1990: GARY OLSEN



Since July 1993, Gary W. Olsen has:

Resigned from CSUN to care for Brita, my daughter, who was in a serious automobile accident. Continued to work as consultant with my firm, Future Alternatives, Inc. Developed and directed North Carolina's 2-week summer Middlers Leadership Camp Program. In 1994, I become Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf's Director of Student Life. Conducted several political action & advocacy and Youth Leadership training workshops for communities and Southern schools for the deaf and the National Jr. NAD Convention in Morganton.

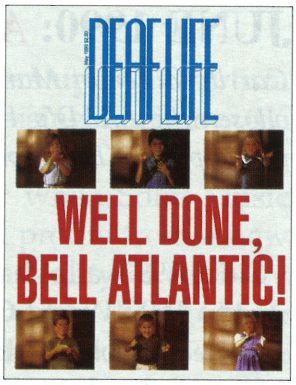
In 1996, I moved to Fremont to become California School for the Deaf's High School Administrative Principal. Also responsible for developing various student-leadership and citizenship-development programs and coordinated program development of student organizations. Involved in training community groups, developing Service Learning standards, and integrating service-learning programs into the high-school curriculum.

Became a "papaw" as Hayley, my first granddaughter, calls me.

Coached CSD's Academic Bowl Team, first winning the WSBC and then Gallaudet University's Western Regional championship, and vying for the 1998 National Championship. Coordinated a fascinating team of students and staff planning the 1998 Jr. NAD Convention.

Challenge at CSDF is exciting and the working environment is super. Join the ACTION!

MAY 1990: BELL ATLANTIC'S E-911 SPOT

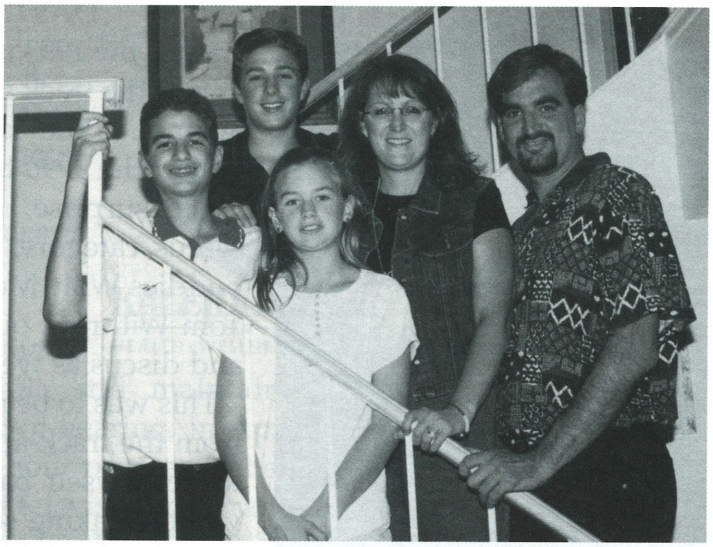


In 1990, Bell Atlantic aired a wonderful 30-second commercial for Enhanced 911 (E-911) Emergency Service that is still fondly remembered. It featured six deaf children from California School for the Deaf, Riverside, communicating in ASL, with open-captions. They were: Jennifer DeLuca, Charlene Merrit, Corinne Palaia, Ben Swindle, Loren DeLeon, and Tyler Bayarsky. Among those involved in the making of the commercial were Dr. I. King Jordan, G. "Bummy" Burstein, Todd Rutherford, Dawn Jeffory-Nelson, and Bill Pugin. Filming was done by Coppos Films in September 1988, in Hollywood. The commercial originally aired in the Bell Atlantic region: New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, and Washington, D.C. The **Deaf Life** staff first saw it in March 1990.

So powerful are those images, so memorable and persuasive, it may come as a bit of a shock to realize that the children have been growing up and are now junior- and senior-high-school students, teenagers . . . practically adults.

We have scant update information. Ben Swindle appeared in ***The Special Visitor***, a children's fantasy film directed by Kristine Finnstrom and screened during ASL Weekend, which was co-sponsored by Deaf Entertainment Foundation and PYRAM. Charlene Merrit attends CSDR.

Tyler's mother, Zibby Bayarsky, still works at CSDR. She provided an update:



Tyler Bayarsky (center) with her family.

Tyler has definitely grown since the 911 commercial. Our family had just moved to Riverside that month, so it was transition month for us all. Tyler is now 13 years old and entering the 8th grade at CSDR.

Since that commercial, she has received numerous invitations to audition for a variety of commercials and movies. She did participate in ***Reading Rainbow's Puzzle Place*** on a few of their segments, and has been involved with an ASL videotape series produced by the State of California Department of Education for the last 4 years. These videos are distributed free to all public and private schools within the State of California. For a nominal fee, schools outside of California can purchase these videos as well.

Tyler still loves being in front of the camera and on stage. She has been asked back each year, to continue with the production of the ASL Video Series. She loves it! While in elementary school, Tyler competed in the ASL Storytelling contest each year and did extremely well.

She is currently on a local swim team and loves it. The breast stroke is her favorite. She will be Co-President for the Student Body Government (SBG) for Middle School this coming fall. The last two years she has been very involved with the SBG in several capacities. She has been on the Academic Bowl team for Middle School for two years as well.

Her brother (partner in crime—Kyle) will be going to High School this fall. She will miss him, but looks forward to being with him the following year when she enters high school.

Her aspirations are to go to the Rome Deaf Olympics [WGD] to compete in swimming, to attend Gallaudet University, and to become a teacher.

JUNE 1990: ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

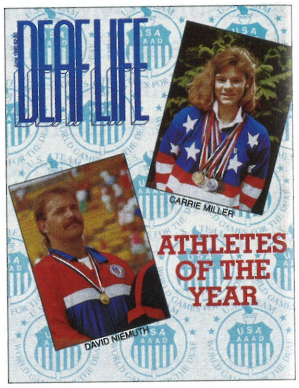
Carrie Miller of Maryland and David L. Niemuth of Wisconsin were chosen the AAAD's 1990 Athletes of the Year. Both have continued to participate in Deaf sports, in and outside of competition.

With Steven Boyland, a friend from Australia.

CARRIE MILLER

Since 1993, a lot has happened! :-) Here are the main highlights: At the 1993 World Games, I won 9 golds and one bronze, which resulted in being the female Athlete of the Year again in 1994. Meanwhile, I swam for Harvard University all four years, winning the 100 and 200 butterfly at the Eastern Championships my junior year. My senior year ended well, winning the Harvard-Radcliffe Foundation for Women's Athletics Prize for top-scholar athlete (co-winner).

After graduating *magna cum laude* from Harvard in June 1996, I headed for the warm waters of Australia on a Fulbright Fellowship. I resumed back to the States in June 1997—and [am] now in a Ph.D. program in Biological Oceanography at the University of Washington in Seattle. I have hung up my swimsuit—but I'm now currently the director for the United States Aquatic Association of the Deaf (taking Reed Gershwind's place).

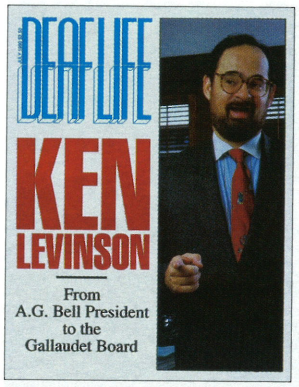


DAVID L. NIEMUTH

Since the 1993 update I have attempted to join in the track and field competition once again. At the last minute, I decided to attend the 1996 tryouts for the 1997 WGD. To my surprise, I was one of the top 3 in the discus category, along with my throwing buddies Willy Moers and Wayne Langbein. Tom Withrow, our fourth weighman, was the coach for shot put and discus as well as a competitor in the hammer throw.

This was to be my fourth WGD. At that time I [had been] absent from the track-and-field scene for almost 7 years. It was not easy to get myself back into shape, which I had only a year to do without taking some time off from my full-time job. I contacted my old track-and-field coach to help me fine-tune my techniques and get back the old stamina that I once had. My old groin-muscle injury hampered my training. I was going to compete in the discus at the WGD, but I ended up entering in both shot-put and discus events. My performance at the WGD was 4th in the discus and 6th in shot-put competition. I enjoyed the fun and excitement that goes along with being an athlete for the U.S. at the Games in Copenhagen, Denmark. I am not sure what the 2001 WGD hold, but I have not given up just yet!

On January 14, 1995, I married Darla Mae Scherer. Later the same year, Darla Mae and I purchased a home in the country, something that I grew up with and have come back to. I continue to work for the United States Postal Service and I am a member of American Postal Workers Union. I work out at a local health club. One of my hobbies includes family-history research. My wife and I enjoy having and spending time with our family, 2 dogs (Great Dane and Dalmatian), for the time being. I will always value my experiences with the WGD and other deaf competitions and look forward to many more years of competition—or perhaps coaching?



JULY 1990: KEN LEVINSON

Ken Levinson tells us, "I decided to give up my partnership in a CPA firm [Quigley, Gatto, Levinson, & Miron] to enter into fundraising. I am now the Executive Director of the Children's Hearing Institute in New York."

Levinson (and CHI) came under fire last December when Sony Music Corporation issued a press release announcing that all profits from a new Christmas-album CD, *Sounds of the Season*, featuring a variety of celebrity singers and musicians, would benefit CHI, which supports the Cochlear Implant Center at Manhattan Eye, Ear & Throat Hospital. CHI has a cochlear-implant pre- and post-surgery program for deaf children involving teachers, speech/language specialists, and medical and audiological personnel. On March 5, 1998, CHI held a Gala Dinner Dance at the Pierre Hotel in New York City. Deaf advocates planned a protest.

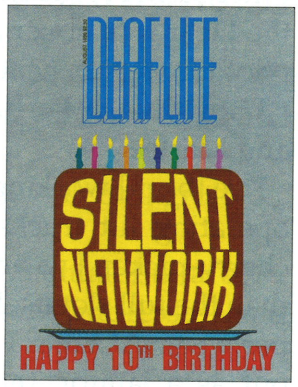
We asked Levinson about the Sony Music/CHI partnership controversy, and if he perceives any conflict between his roles as Executive Director of CHI and a member of the Gallaudet University Board of Trustees. "I am really swamped right now," he replied. He calls the controversy "a dead issue." As for the protest, "nothing came of it . . . just a few rabble-rousers trying to cause a problem that never materialized . . . but my real point is that I think the implant controversy is on the way out . . . a ways to go, but it is going that way, so why stoke the fires again?" He believes in "bringing people together."

AUGUST 1990: TSN's 10th ANNIVERSARY

In 1990, The Silent Network was sold to the Atkins Group in San Antonio, Texas. TSN and ADC were consolidated into the Kaleidoscope Network in 1993.

Joe M. Cayton, Director of Corporate Communications at Kaleidoscope, provided an update for us.

KALEIDOSCOPE
HEALTH • WELLNESS • ABILITY



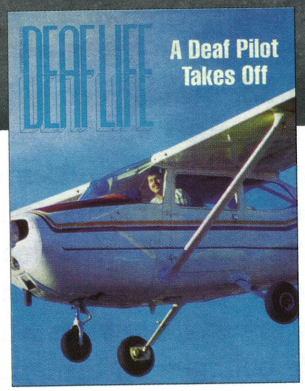
In the past 5 years, Kaleidoscope has made significant and sweeping improvements while still maintaining its commitment to viewers who are Deaf and hard-of-hearing. In April 1995, KTV took a major step in expanding to a full 24-hour program schedule. The expansion created a much larger demand to caption 24 hours a day of television programming. KTV met the demands, remaining the only fully captioned network in the world.

In addition, KTV is still the only national network to continue to provide Deaf programming such as ***Deaf Perspective*** and ***Deaf Mosaic***.

A big step toward expanding services to the Deaf community, as well as other viewers, is *Kaleidoscope Interactive*, a full-featured Website designed to complement and enhance the network's TV programming. On KI, Web-surfers will find the complete programming schedule, with episode synopses and program descriptions, articles, and feature stories, links to hundreds of Deaf, disability, and health-related sites, chatrooms, games, and more. Visitors to KI can request, free of charge, to have the latest articles and features E-mailed directly to their desktop in the form of an Internet newsletter.

In the television industry these days, the important trend is toward digital technology. KTV has remained at the forefront of this trend by greatly expanding its in-house digital post-production facilities. In addition, KTV was and still remains one of the only networks to move to digital technology on satellite, while other networks are still using the outmoded analog process.

With a 6-passenger Piper Seneca at Aurora State Airport, 1994.



SEPTEMBER 1990: BRUCE BRENNAN

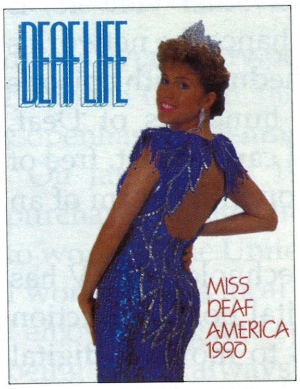
This has been one of our most popular cover stories. We received several inquiries from other deaf people who wanted to become pilots or had already begun training. Bruce Brennan tells us:

The International Deaf Pilots Association has grown and currently has about 146 members who are active pilots. Two years ago, there were 46.] I met 35 IDPA members at the IDPA's First Annual Fly-In [July 1994]. Three of them told me that the **Deaf Life** cover story launched them into getting their pilot's licenses, and one was a student pilot too. It was neat to meet the older pilots who [had flown] much longer than I did.

I now live in Portland, Oregon, sharing a place with a roommate, and have two cats named Jo and Marlee.

I've [been] working at the Fred Meyer Distribution Center warehouse in Clackamas [for] 4 years, operating lift trucks, Hyster, Crown, and Raymond high-rise forklifts. My favorite one is the cherry-picker. I wear a harness and it takes me 40 feet high to pick merchandise in smaller amounts than the full slot itself to deliver to the order-filler's sections. Been working 20 to 30 hours overtime per week. At times I worked 14 hours a day, 6 days a week straight, and it was something. I started out as a janitor, then became an order-filler, then [was] promoted to forklift operations. The warehouse is 1.5 million square feet; it's the 5th largest warehouse in America. Plenty of room to roam around. [Working there is] my passion. Feels rewarding and I just love it.

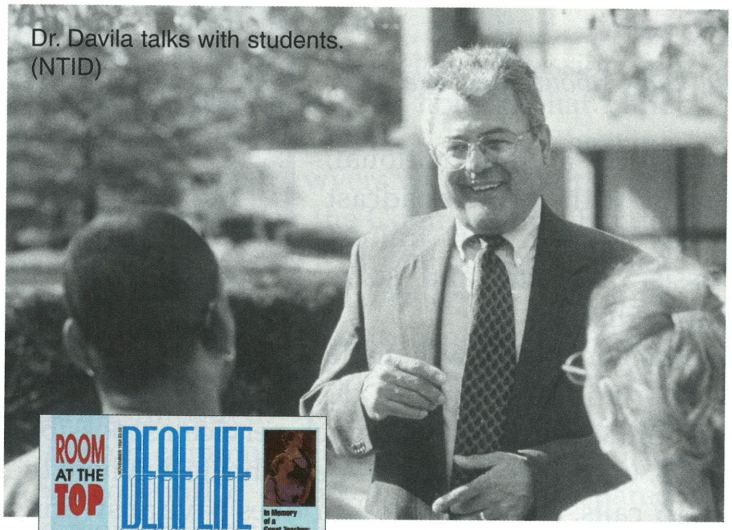
I've been inactive as a pilot for [the past] two years, by choice, to save money, so there's not much [to add to the update]. Will I return to flying? It's a hard question. It should come unexpectedly, not [be] planned.



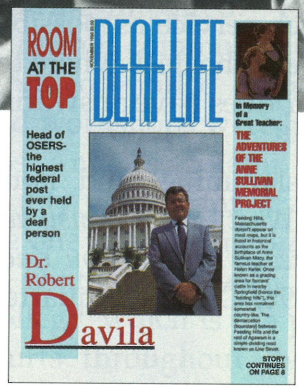
OCTOBER 1990: NANCYLYNN WARD MISS DEAF AMERICA 1990-92

Nancylynn Ward Bridges lives in Texas with her family. Last March, she sent us a friendly wish:

I hope this finds you all well and enjoying good fortune and health. You have been on my thoughts for some time. Speaking of memories, someone unearthed an old issue of **Deaf Life** with me on the cover at some Garage Sale. It was a great topic of discussion and interest at my office. I jokingly said, "Oh, no! My past has come back to haunt me!"



Dr. Davila talks with students. (NTID)



NOVEMBER 1990: ROBERT DAVILA

In July 1989, President George Bush appointed Dr. Davila Assistant Secretary of the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services in the Department of Education (OSERS). He served with distinction until President Clinton's election in November 1992. Ironically, his successor at OSERS, Dr. Judith E. Heumann, outraged the Deaf community by her outspoken opposition to separate schooling, which she called "immoral."

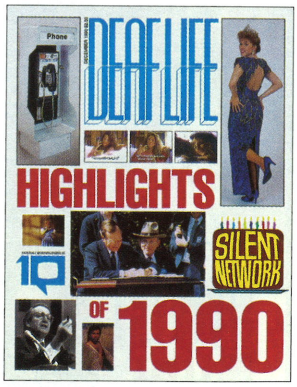
On July 1, 1993, Dr. Davila became the new Headmaster (superintendent) of New York School for the Deaf in White Plains ("Fanwood"), where he had taught math, social studies, and English for 14 years, before starting his administrative career at Gallaudet College/University and its Pre-College Programs. He began working on behalf of the growing nationwide Black and Hispanic student population.

On May 14, 1996, Dr. Davila was appointed RIT Vice President for NTID—its first deaf director. The joyous news broke only a few days after he had received an honorary doctorate from Gallaudet. His office at Fanwood was immediately bombarded by congratulatory TTY and fax messages, and "a ton of E-mail." He succeeded Dr. William Castle, who had headed NTID since its founding in 1968 until resigning in 1995. (Dr. Albert T. Pimentel became Fanwood's next Headmaster.)

Dr. Davila has responsibility for some 1,100 deaf students from a variety of backgrounds, overseeing their education and NTID programs and services.

He has maintained (and probably increased) his professional affiliations, maintaining a busy schedule of participating in conferences, giving keynote and commencement addresses, and receiving honors and recognitions for his achievements.

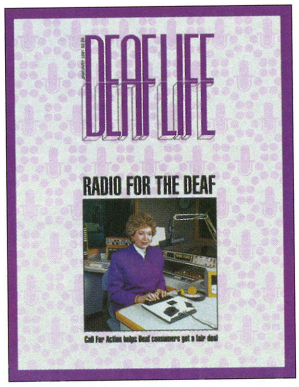
DECEMBER 1990: HIGHLIGHTS OF 1990



The biggest events of 1990 were the passage and signing into law of the ADA (signed by President Bush on July 26) and the Television Decoder Circuitry Act (signed on October 26). Other items of note: the continuing boom in relay services and increasing number of pay-telephone TTYs, and two new ASL commercials—one featuring Marlee Matlin for Whiskas cat food, and one featuring six proud Deaf children for Bell Atlantic's Enhanced 911 (E-911) service. (See May 1990 update.)

The lead story in **DEAF LIFE Plus** dealt with the mysterious death of Carl Dupree on the Gallaudet campus, November 9, 1990. It was the first of several reports on the tragedy and ensuing controversy, covering the initial lawsuit and the indictment, eventual trial, and acquittal of four campus-security guards. Was Dupree choked to death, or did he die from a weakened heart that was ready to give out at any moment? What with contradictory testimony and the guards' staunch denial of any wrongdoing, the exact circumstances of Dupree's death remain a mystery, with, and we may never know the full story.

JANUARY 1991: CALL FOR ACTION



Call For Action is a resource that consumers should know about—and use. CFA helped us, too.

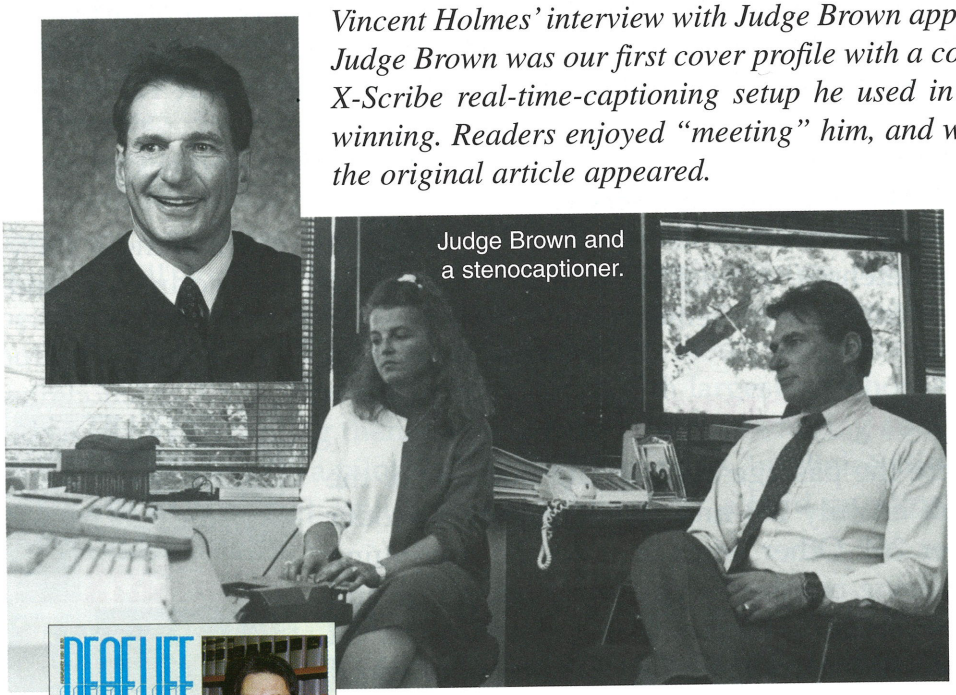
Call For Action (CFA) has continued its work as an international, non-profit network of consumer hotlines affiliated with local broadcast partners under the guidance of President Shirley Rooker. Our trained volunteers, now numbering 1,200, work to assist, educate, and solve consumer problems through free and confidential mediation.

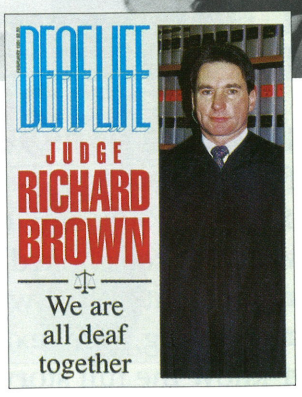
Our initial installation of TTYs and outreach to Deaf consumers was made possible by a grant from AT&T. Presently, we do not have funds to do extensive outreach to Deaf consumers. We do continue to provide as much service as possible. While some of our volunteers are trained on the TTY, we do not have anyone at the desk where the TTY is located, in part because we receive so few TTY calls. However, the TTY does have answering capability and takes calls 24 hours a day. We do respond to all TTY calls.

CFA receives numerous complaints dealing with car repair, phone slamming, and home improvement and offers several free brochures: *A Smart New Way to Pay: What Savvy Consumers Need to Know About Debit Cards, Countdown to Smart Dialing, Divorce and Credit: Be Sure You Know the Rules of the Game,* and *New Credit: Is the deck shuffled in your favor?* In 1996, CFA Headquarters and the Intercity office moved to Bethesda, Maryland.

FEBRUARY 1991: JUDGE RICHARD BROWN

Vincent Holmes' interview with Judge Brown appeared in our February 1991 issue. Judge Brown was our first cover profile with a cochlear implant, and explained the X-Scribe real-time-captioning setup he used in the courtroom. His attitude was winning. Readers enjoyed "meeting" him, and we've had queries about him since the original article appeared.


Judge Brown and a stenocaptioner.



I have been a member of the American Bar Association Commission on Mental and Physical Disability Law since 1993. Since 1996, I have served as the chair. The Commission is responsible for publishing the **Mental and Physical Law Reporter**, a legal periodical held in high regard by academicians, lawyers, and judges on disability law. The **Reporter** collects important cases and tries to locate trends in the law based upon those cases. Additionally, the **Reporter** publishes papers by respected persons in the field. The Commission also has been instrumental in teaching the Americans with Disabilities Act to judges and lawyers throughout the country, both by lecture and by publishing books on the subject. I have taught over 40 seminars across the country to judges and lawyers as part of the effort. We offer a hands-on management training for courthouse personnel as well. Also, the Commission has been a

zealous advocate of creating more opportunities within the legal profession for those with disabilities. Our hope is that blind lawyers, Deaf lawyers, hard-of-hearing lawyers, and other lawyers with disabilities can bond together under the Commission's banner so that we can speak with one powerful voice.

I was a member of an American Judicature Society project dedicated to "Improving Access to the Courts for People who are Deaf and Hearing Impaired." The project was designed to further communication access in the courts. A video entitled ***Silent Justice*** was prepared and workshops were held in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, Miami, and Chicago. I was a faculty participant at all the workshops except the one in Washington.

I continue to teach at the National Judicial College, which is the place where judges from courts throughout the United States go for continuing legal education. In addition to other legal topics, I teach the ADA and disability law.

I was a member of the advisory committee to the CNN-Media Services Corporation project for three years, 1995-98.

I continue to use a cochlear implant and switched to the Spectra Processor in 1995. It works very well and I am able to talk on the telephone with some ability. I can also hear some music and I can also go to movie theaters with the aid of a hook-up (patch cord) to the movie house infra-red. At the court, we now have an FM system which works very well and I am directly connected to the sound. It is portable and so I can take the system with me to the satellite courts that we sit in.

A brief "personal" rundown: I was divorced from my first wife in 1989. I remarried in 1992. I have two children from each marriage. Ben is 27 and a lawyer who graduated from Harvard Law School. Allison is 23 and a ski instructor in Aspen. She graduated from the University of Virginia. Noah is almost 4 and Pauline is 1-1/2. I am proud of all of my children.

That is about all the update I can think of, right now.

YOUR SINGLE SOURCE FOR TTYs & ASSISTIVE DEVICES

Weitbrecht Communications offers the widest variety of TTYs and assistive devices available. Choose from our complete line of:

Ultratec TTYs
Alerting Systems
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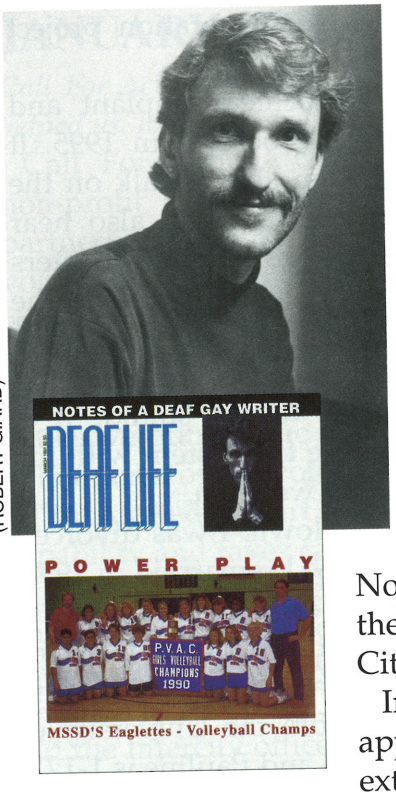
MARCH 1991: RAYMOND LUCZAK



(ROBERT GIARD)

Since July 1993, I've seen my first book **Eyes of Desire: A Deaf Gay & Lesbian Reader** (Alyson) get published and appear in five countries around the world. The response to the book has been tremendous, and 5 years later, I still get letters and E-mail from folks whose lives have been affected by the book.

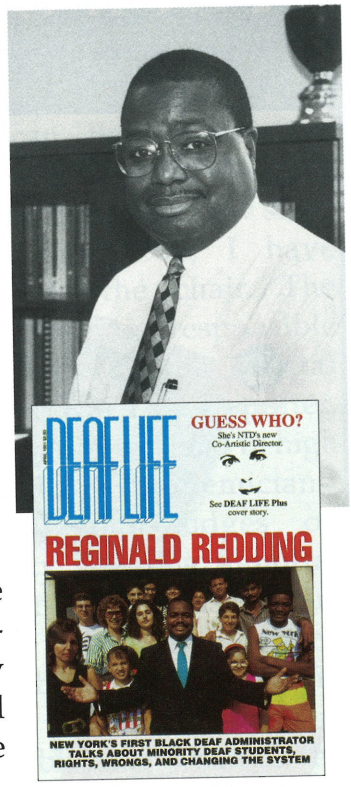
In 1994, Eyes of Desire was nominated for a Lambda Literary Award in two categories: Best Gay & Lesbian Anthology, and Best Small Press Book.

Then I worked on my plays ***Six Women in Search of a Perfect Play***, ***Daffodils***, ***Snooty***, and ***Whispers of a Savage Sort***. [***Whispers*** was produced at NTID's first Deaf Play Creators Festival in 1996.]

In June 1997 I was invited by the Mark Taper Forum to workshop my play ***Among Fathers*** there, and working on the same play from November 1997 through April 1998 has been wonderful, especially with the director, Tim Chamberlain, and a group of actors here in New York City. I expect to continue working on Act II later this summer.

In January 1996, my second book, **St. Michael's Fall** (Deaf Life Press), appeared, and the response to my readings and the book itself have been extraordinary. I'll never forget the reading I did in my own hometown, and discovered that *nine* deaf people from the area showed up to hear the story of my growing up. The shocking thing was that one of them lived up over the hill from me while I was growing up; apparently no one wanted me to know that she existed, or I'd have learned signs sooner. **SMF** had a lot more resonance than I'd expected.

APRIL 1991: REGINALD REDDING



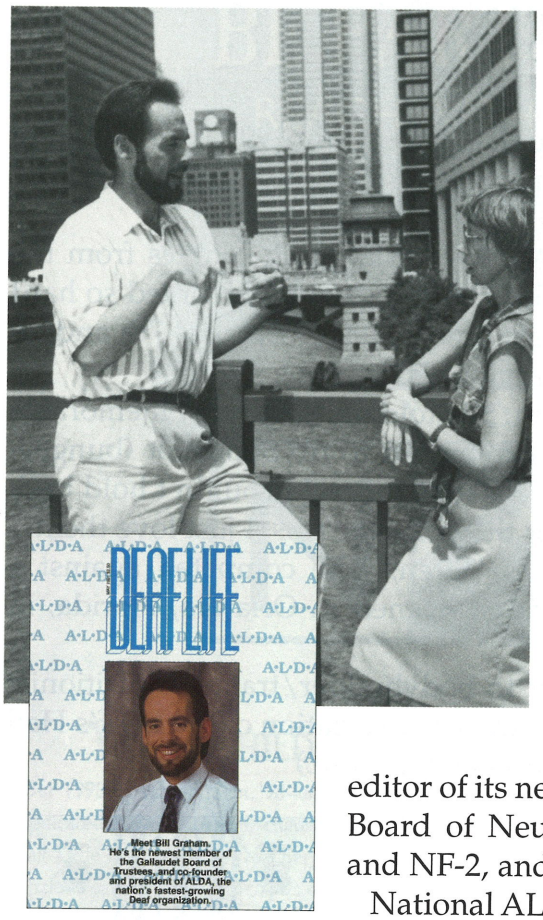
(PATRICK J. CONDON)

From 1991 to 1993, Dr. Redding served as the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction and Director of Education at Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf, and from 1993 to 1997, as Director of NTID's Center for Student Resources and RIT's Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs. He also taught courses in American History as a faculty member of the Department of Creative and Cultural Studies.

"I've returned to my *alma mater*, Gallaudet University, where today I serve as the Dean of the College for Continuing Education and an Associate Professor in the Education Department. I administer the Center for Global Education; Conferences, Training, and Program Support; and Continuing Education Credit Program.

"It has been great coming back to Gallaudet University. The university is in a very much different place than when it was before I began my journey. I continue to serve on several boards and committees, notably the CEASD and CED, and work to address concerns facing deaf and hard-of-hearing children and youths from ethnic, racial, and linguistic culturally diverse backgrounds. I completed my doctoral studies in Special Educational Administration at Gallaudet in 1995, and continue to write articles and give presentations on various topics.

"Last but definitely not least, on a personal note, God has blessed my family with a son, Reggie Lee, Jr., who has been a joy and delight to my wife and me."



(PATRICK J. CONDON)

MAY 1991: BILL GRAHAM

In February 1993, Bill Graham resigned as Executive Director of the Association of Late-Deafened Adults and editor of **ALDA News**, becoming Executive Director of Hearing Loss Link, a newly-established social-service organization for late-deafened adults in Chicago.

Graham was Life Sciences Editor at **World Book Encyclopedia** from 1982 through 1995. In Summer 1995, he received a cochlear implant, and was hooked up just before ALDAcon 95, where he delivered a speech in his characteristic style—honest, upbeat, and funny.

In January 1996, he and his wife Karen, a noted social-services professional who had been active with LINK, left Illinois for Washington. Graham took an editorial position at Microsoft **Encarta** encyclopedia in Redmond, north of Seattle, which is becoming a "Deaf Mecca."

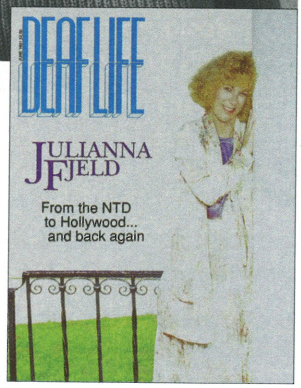
Kathie Skyer Hering, who shared a chapter with Graham in **Great Deaf Americans: The Second Edition**, has been President of ALDA's Chicago Chapter since 1991 and is editor of its newsletter, **ALDA Chicago Style**. She's served on the National Board of Neurofibromatosis, Inc., promoting public awareness of NF-1 and NF-2, and is a member of the Link Board of Directors.

National ALDA headquarters are now at the Northern Virginia Resource Center in Fairfax. Mary Clark is Executive Director of LINK and current ALDA President. ALDA is marking its 10th anniversary in Chicago with ALDAcon 98, "Back to the Future."

JUNE 1991: JULIANNA FJELD

Julianna Fjeld is best known as the Emmy Award-winning co-executive producer of the 1985 TV-movie, ***Love is Never Silent****. She served as Education/Outreach Coordinator for ADWAS in Seattle. (See March 1996 update.)*

I am back in California to become co-owner of a new condo in the Bay Area with my partner, Margie Massar. She has spurred on my creativity in acting, directing, and producing the past few years in Seattle. With the new perspective in California, I had a wonderful opportunity to direct a play entitled ***Romeo and Juliet*** at California School for the Deaf in Fremont. After this, I have been asked to be one of the major key players in a play called ***Lower Depth***, written by Maxim Gorky at the Studio Actors' Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco. This project—as a part of the Advanced Project series—had two Deaf actors to perform with hearing actors.



In the meantime, I am also working on various projects such as performing in an one-woman show at Ohlone College in Fremont and at San Francisco State University in the fall and getting a play, ***Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?***, off the ground with Don Bangs [of SignRise Cultural Arts].

JULY 1991: SHELLEY BEATTIE, "WOMAN OF STEEL"

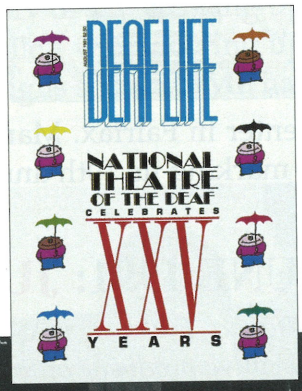
Shelley Beattie made her **Deaf Life** debut in our July 1991 issue. Judging from the letters we received from readers, she gained an enthusiastic following among our readers.

Competing for the coveted title of Ms. Olympia, she got raves from the muscle-mag reporters. She came in third in 1992—"I never worked so hard in all my life." She competed for the last time in 1993. "I placed 7th and no longer felt I could compete against the big girls."

In Spring 1992, Beattie joined the ***American Gladiators*** team. She told us, "My most memorable experience on the show was my [very] first event—when I came out to do Slingshot (bungee-game), the entire audience stomped their feet and waved their hands for me! I couldn't hold back the tears. It felt so good to be a Gladiator. I wanted to win for the *kids*—the *fans*. I just love them. I felt for the first time, I was accepted for my deafness." As "Siren," she competed against a succession of contenders on TV and in the live version, which opened in Orlando, Florida, in December 1995.

That fall, **People Weekly** publicized Beattie's engagement to bodybuilder/trainer/nutritionist John Romano. In 1993, she was inducted into the Northwest Athletic Association of the Deaf's Hall of Fame as "Sportsperson of the Year." (See December 1992 update for more.)

AUGUST 1991: NTD's 25th ANNIVERSARY



In 1994-95, the National Theatre of the Deaf took a fresh version of Labiche and Marc-Michel's vintage slapstick-fluff, ***An Italian Straw Hat***, on tour. The first National and Worldwide Deaf Theatre Conference was held in Summer 1995.

The 1996-97 season teamed NTD veteran Andy Vasnick as Charles Dodgson (a.k.a. Lewis Carroll) and 11-year-old Jorjan Lynn Jeter as Alice Liddell in ***Curioser and Curiouser***. (See January 1997 update.)

In late June 1997, NTD's former Executive Director, Charles Roper, who had pleaded guilty to misappropriating more than $105,000 in federal-education grants intended for NTD and spending it on elegant clothes, antiques, fancy restaurants, a Mercedes-Benz, rent, *and* a vacation at a Virginia spa, was sentenced to a year in prison and ordered to repay NTD after his release.

To celebrate its 30th anniversary, NTD's 1997-98 tour (63 cities in 6 months, its biggest ever) featured an imaginative adaptation of Ibsen's ***Peer Gynt***, in collaboration with Pilobolus Dance Theatre, starring Darby Jared Leigh.

In late January 1998, NTD became the world's first theater company to perform in all seven continents when it conducted a workshop aboard the Russian icebreaker and exploration vessel *Akademik Shuleykin* in Anatarctica. The workshop went over quite well. (There was no comment from the penguins.)

NTD dedicated its full 1998-99 touring season to the Little Theatre of the Deaf, NTD's acclaimed "branch" for children. Enthusiastic audience participation is expected.

LTD's ***Shakespeare Unmasked***, by Shanny Mow, 1998.
(A. VINCENT SCARANO/NTD)

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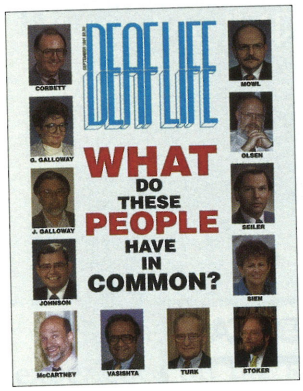
SEPTEMBER 1991: DEAF SUPERINTENDENTS



Since we ran our July 1993 update on deaf superintendents of schools for the deaf, the roster has undergone considerable reshuffling. As of July 1998, there are 14—compared to 13 in 1991. A few superintendents profiled in our September 1991 cover story and July 1993 update have "switched" schools: Peter Seiler (Arkansas) was at Illinois in 1991, Madan M. Vasishta (New Mexico) was at Eastern North Carolina/Wilson, and Susan Sien (Central North Carolina/Greensboro) was at Austine.

Four superintendents—William P. Johnson, Gertrude S. Galloway, Harold Mowl, and Edward E. Corbett—are still working at the schools they headed in Fall 1991. James E. Tucker, included in our July 1993 update, still heads Maryland-Frederick. Several "new faces" have entered the scene since we ran our July 1993 update: Dr. Harvey J. Corson (Kentucky), Albert T. Pimentel (Fanwood), Alex Slappey (Wisconsin), Donald Rhoten (Western Pennsylvania), and Jon C. Green (South Dakota).

Dr. Robert R. Davila, Fanwood's Headmaster from 1993 to 1996, is now RIT Vice President for NTID. At Fanwood, he was succeeded by Dr. Pimentel.

Jane Fernandes, who previously headed Hawaii's Statewide Center, is now Vice President of the Pre-College National Mission Programs at Gallaudet University. And Katherine Jankowski, who previously headed CNCSD, is now Director of Pre-College Demonstration and Elementary Schools (KDES and MSSD).

Gary Olsen, who was Superintendent of Mississippi School for the Deaf in 1991, is now High School Administrative Principal at CSD-Fremont. Dr. Frank R. Turk, who served as Superintendent of SDSD from 1989 to 1991, then directed North Carolina's Division of Services for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing from 1991 to 1996, is now Special Assistant for Development at the NAD, and, together with Olsen, is still actively involved in the Jr. NAD and YLC.

Harold Mowl, Jr. has been Superintendent of Rochester School for the Fear for nearly a decade. In 1995, Gary E. Mowl was appointed Superintendent of North Carolina School for the Deaf at Morganton, making them the first deaf brothers to become superintendents of schools for the deaf.

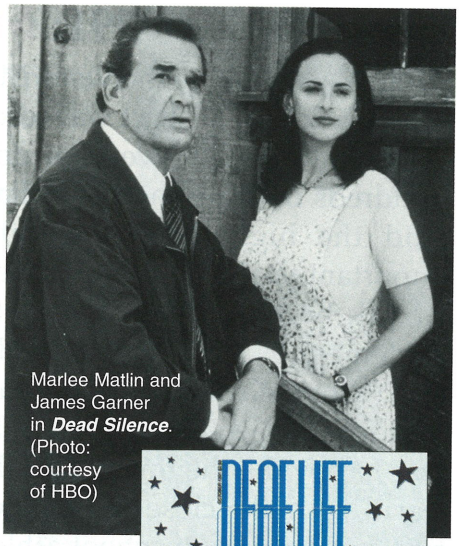
Eddie F. Laird, Indiana School for the Deaf's second deaf superintendent, is now studying for a doctorate at Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas.

Dr. Brian D. McCartney, Superintendent of Michigan School for the Deaf, retired in 1995 after his health had begun to fail. He died of acute leukemia on April 26, 1998.

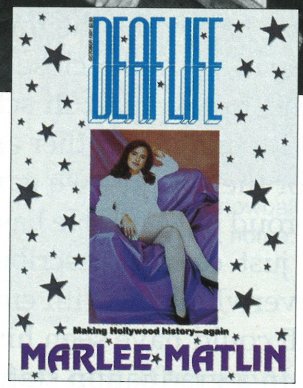
Current roster of deaf superintendents

1) Peter Seiler—Arkansas School for the Deaf, Little Rock
2) William P. Johnson—Iowa School for the Deaf, Council Bluffs
3) Harvey J. Corson—Kentucky School for the Deaf, Danville
4) James E. Tucker—Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick
5) Gertrude S. Galloway—Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf, West Trenton, New Jersey
6) Madan M. Vasishta—New Mexico School for the Deaf, Santa Fe
7) Albert T. Pimentel—New York School for the Deaf, White Plains
8) Harold Mowl, Jr.—Rochester School for the Deaf (New York)
9) Gary E. Mowl—North Carolina School for the Deaf, Morganton
10) Susan Sien—Central North Carolina School for the Deaf, Greensboro
11) Edward E. Corbett, Jr.—Ohio School for the Deaf, Columbus
12) Donald Rhoten—Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, Pittsburgh
13) Jon C. Green—South Dakota School for the Deaf, Sioux Falls
14) Alex Slappey—Wisconsin School for the Deaf, Delavan

OCTOBER 1991: MARLEE MATLIN



Marlee Matlin and James Garner in ***Dead Silence***. (Photo: courtesy of HBO)



Marlee Matlin has continued her multiple career as a Hollywood star, personality/newsmaker, advocate—e.g., AIDS, closed-captioning (she's now VITAC's celebrity spokeswoman), Starlight Foundation, and Special Olympics—among numerous affiliations. She also owns a production company, Solo One.

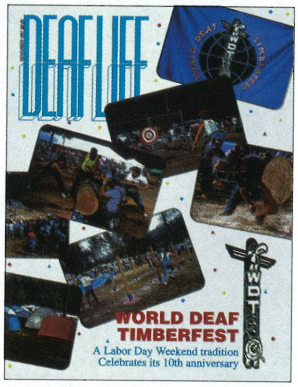
In August 1993, Matlin wed policeman Kevin Grandalski, whom she met on the set of ***Reasonable Doubts***. Their first child, Sarah Rose, was born in January 1996.

In 1994, Matlin starred in Lifetime's ***Against Her Will: The Carrie Buck Story***—her first "non-deaf" role—and was nominated for a CableACE Award. She appeared in comic roles on ***Picket Fences*** and ***Seinfeld*** and got Emmy nominations for both, starred in a new Macintosh commercial, and hosted PBS's acclaimed series, ***People in Motion*** (1996). She had a substantial role in Randal Kleiser's ***It's My Party*** (1996) and a revealing cover interview in **Art & Understanding: The International Magazine of Literature and Art About AIDS**. "I've had to fight to be who I am and do what I want," she said.

In 1997, she starred in HBO's ***Dead Silence***, opposite James Garner. Other TV/cable guest roles include ***Sweet Justice***, ***The Outer Limits***, ***The Larry Sanders Show***, ***Spin City***, ***Sesame Street***, specials, and music videos. Recent roles include ***Two Shades of Blue*** and ***In Her Defense***. Coming up: ***Freak City***.

She and partner Jack Jason, an old friend and veteran interpreter with longtime involvement in the Deaf community, are Executive Producers of two new projects: ***90 Days at Hollyridge*** for Lifetime, and ***Isabel Crawford of Saddle Mountain*** for Hearst Entertainment.

NOVEMBER 1991: WORLD DEAF TIMBERFEST



The next World Deaf Timberfest Family Camping Weekend (XVII WDT) will be held on Labor Day Weekend at Camp Taloali in Stayton, Oregon. That's about all the information we have on the WDT.

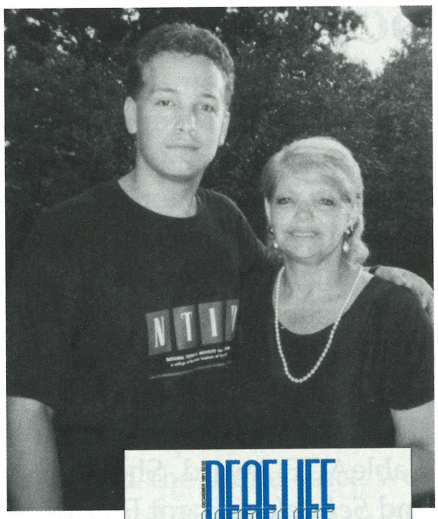
Looking back, we see that the most interesting thing about our November 1991 issue wasn't the cover story about the Tenth World Deaf Timberfest, but the inside story about Dr. Elisabeth Ann Zinser, Gallaudet University's seventh president. In early October 1991, she came to Rochester to talk about her experiences during DPN. For the first time, we were able to listen to Dr. Zinser's own story, which had never before been presented to us. It was a compelling story. That night, we learned something about history, and conflict, and truth.

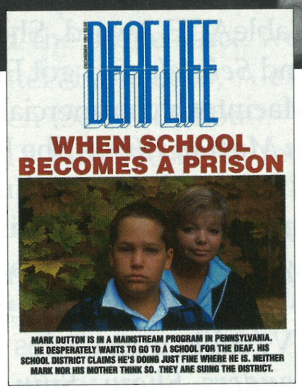
Dr. Elisabeth A. Zinser

We published Dr. Zinser's first-person account in our November and December 1991 issues as "Breaking the Silence." John B. Christiansen and Sharon N. Barnartt's **Deaf President Now! The Revolution at Gallaudet University** (1995), now considered the definitive DPN history, quoted from "Breaking the Silence"—a token of its importance.

Why didn't we feature Dr. Zinser on our cover? We were asked that question more than once. Readers had been clamoring for more sports stories, and we wanted them to have the WDT story as our cover feature. But Dr. Zinser's story had far more historical significance.

DECEMBER 1991: MARK DUTTON





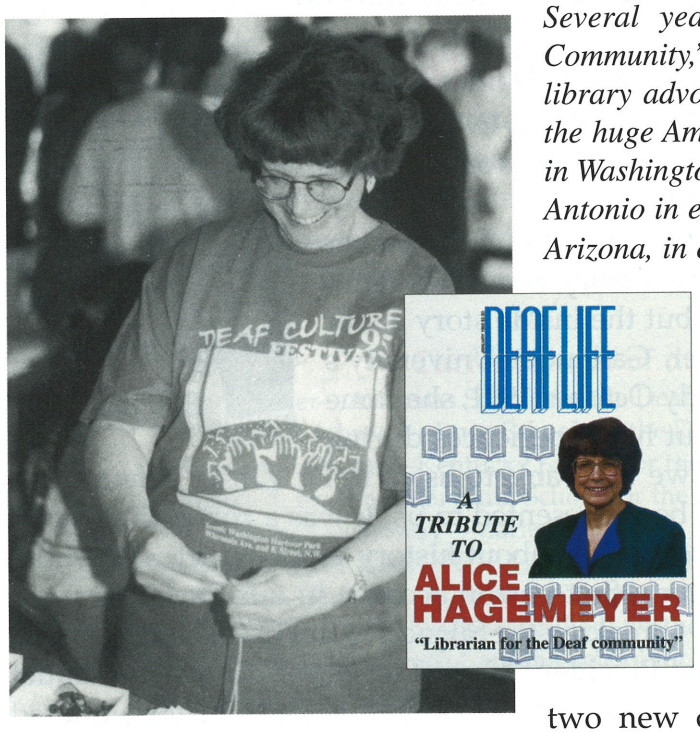
The 2-year dispute between Mark Dutton's family and the Lake-Lehman School District was resolved in August 1992. "The School Board's attempt to save a few dollars ultimately cost the taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees, although my son paid the highest price of all," wrote Susan Dutton. "Two important years for learning were wasted."

Mark began classes at Scranton State School for the Deaf on September 9, 1992, and thrived. He graduated on June 11, 1998, and will be starting his freshman year at NTID this fall.

At SSSD's graduation dinner, he gave an address. "He told us he was happy that he finally had the opportunity to attend [SSSD, to learn], to make close friends he could communicate freely with, and to take part in school athletics. He has grown up in a loving family with me, his brother and sister (both hearing), and he thanked us publicly for the support we gave him during that long struggle. I was desperataly proud of Mark. He has become a wonderful and beautiful young man and I just cannot describe how I felt as I watched him on stage. I felt so overwhelmed with emotion and faith for his bright future that I wish you all could have seen him there like that."

In a graduation statement, Mark thanked his family, SSSD teachers and classmates, lawyers, and supporters: "I am grateful to all of you for helping me reach my goals."

JANUARY 1992: ALICE HAGEMEYER



Several years after she retired as "Librarian for the Deaf Community," Alice L. Hagemeyer remains actively involved with library advocacy, the NAD, and community affairs. She attended the huge American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. in late June, then the NAD Conference in San Antonio in early July, and then the WHCLIST meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, in early August.

I have been building up my Friends of Libraries for Deaf Action (FOLDA) collection relating to "Library and Information Services to the Deaf Community" and am now seeking a home for it. I also have talked and written about the resolutions from the White House Conference on Libraries and Information Services Task Force (WHCLIST), of which I am an active member. Working through the FOLDA—USA Section of the NAD, the Deaf Commemorative Events committee has formed two new deaf annual events: *Deaf History Month*, which began on March 13, 1997, and *Clerc-Gallaudet Week* in the first full week of December 1997. (The latter was originated by the D.C. Public Library in cooperation with the D.C. community in 1974 as "Deaf Awareness Week," later changed to "Deaf Action Week," and then "Deaf Heritage Week.")

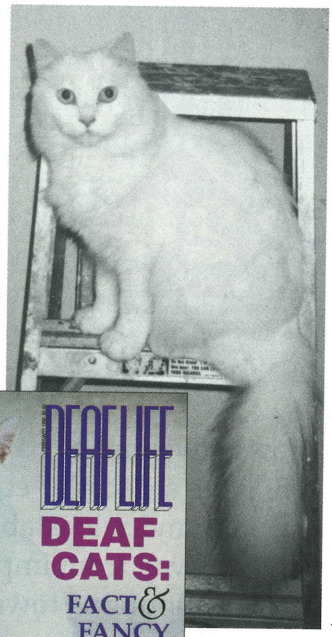
FOLDA has just developed a 1998 Library Kit for the benefit of the library community.

FEBRUARY 1992: DEAF CATS

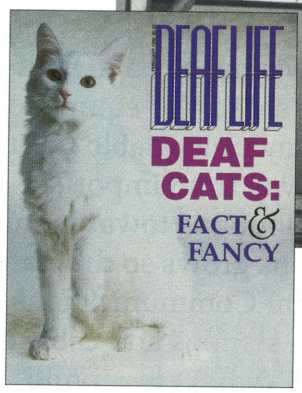
Christina Elchmeier, Director of Development at the Tree House Animal Foundation in Chicago, where Deputy, the handsome cat on our cover, had been living until he was adopted, said: "I pulled Deputy's file and tried calling both the home and work phone numbers for his adopter. The people I spoke with at both numbers had never heard of her, so I'm afraid we don't have any way of reaching her for an update on him.

"We currently don't have any deaf cats waiting to be adopted—just a few blind ones. No one here can even remember having any deaf cats admitted in recent years." Still, we can assume that Deputy is alive and cherished, wherever he and his adoptive family are now.

The Christmas 1996 issue of **Humane News**, the bimonthly newsletter of the Associate Humane Societies of New Jersey, included a "brief" on a deaf white cat, Snowball, who was waiting to be adopted at the AHS shelter in Newark. Snowball had been given up by his original owner when he was 4 months old. "When he meows, he reaches a high C! He's gentle, affectionate, purrs loudly, and needs to be in a safe home as an indoor cat." Karen Powell, Executive Assistant at AHS-Newark, told us: "Snowball is alive and doing very well with me."



(KAREN POWELL/A.H.S.)



Snowball at home.

We received a few queries from readers who were interested in adopting deaf cats. (Our advice: check with your local Humane Society or other animal shelter, or a reputable breeder of white cats.)

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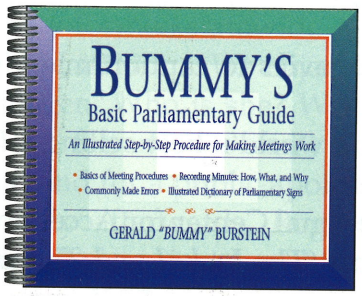

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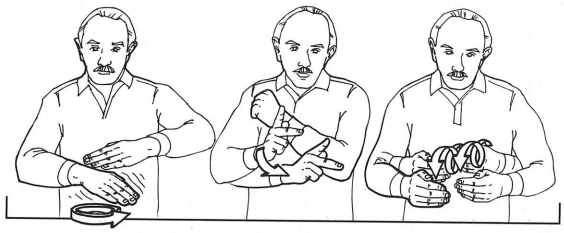

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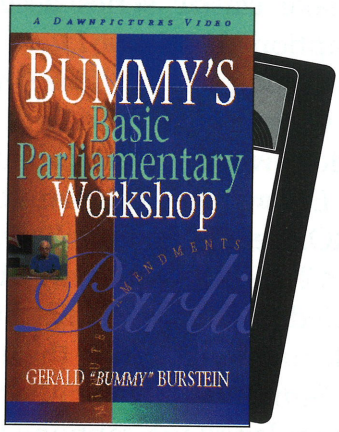

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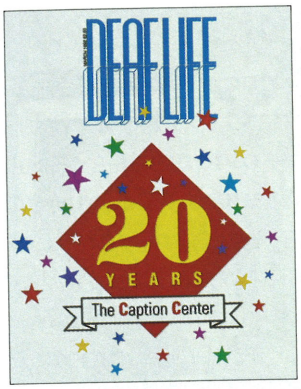


MARCH 1992:
THE CAPTION CENTER'S 20th ANNIVERSARY

The update we received from The Caption Center touches on some exciting and revolutionary changes:

The captioning industry has seen amazing growth in the last 26 years. The 6 years since **Deaf Life** featured The Caption Center's 20th anniversary on its cover have been the most eventful for both viewers and those in the industry. Among the sweeping changes:

- Implementation of the Decoder Circuitry Act (1993), which requires most televisions to have built-in decoders. With 29 million of these sets sold each year, every home will have a decoder-equipped set by 2000. The built-in decoders allow new features, such as color captions and relocatable roll-up (which permits real-time captions to be displayed at the top of the screen, away from important graphics or action at the bottom of the screen). We are truly proud of our contributions towards this important legislative milestone, and are thrilled that the audience for captions grows so dramatically every year.
- Federal Communications Commission established captioning mandates (1997) which require television stations and cable operators to increase the amount of captioned programs to 95% over the next 8 years.

Other Recent Accomplishments and Breakthroughs:

Nickelodeon's Big Help—The Caption Center is a National Service Partner for cable network Nickelodeon's The Big Help, an ongoing community-service campaign that encourages millions of kids to volunteer time to worthy causes in their hometowns. We conduct outreach to local schools, teachers, parents, and deaf and hard-of-hearing kids to get them involved.

World Wide Web—The Caption Center's site is part of WGBH's site, which is among the most accessible on the Web with pioneering provisions for deaf, hard-of-hearing, and visually impaired users.

Classic Television—For 11 years, we've held a grant from the U.S. Department of Education to make classic series accessible for the first time. Among more than 25 favorites shows now captioned: ***I Love Lucy***, ***The Mary Tyler Moore Show***, ***The Odd Couple***, ***Hill Street Blues***, and debuting this fall, ***The Brady Bunch***.

Classic Movies—We're working with cable network Turner Classic Movies to caption many of Hollywood's most famous films for the first time.

Encarta 98—The Caption Center worked with Microsoft to make the world's best-selling CD-ROM encyclopedia, *Encarta 98*, accessible for the first time.

Closed-Captioned Feature Films—Together with the CPB/WGBH National Center for Accessible Media (NCAM), made history as the first closed-captioned feature films (***The Jackal*** and ***Titanic***) debuted in a movie theater during regular showtimes.

Simultaneous English and Spanish Captioning—With CBS, debuted the world's first dual-language-captioned series, ***60 Minutes***. English captions appear on CC1, Spanish captions on CC2.

Web TV Crossover Links—We worked with the producers of ***Baywatch*** to insert links to Web-based information in the last three episodes of the series this season.

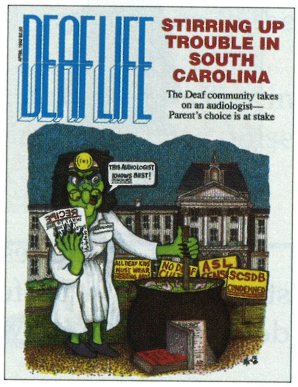
Digital Video Disks—We've begun providing captioning and subtitling (often in 4 languages) for DVDs for home-video distribution and music companies. DVDs will eventually replace videotapes.

Future Outlook: It is vitally important that the gains made in access over the last 26 years not be lost as we enter the digital age. There are still some hurdles adapting the current captioning system for advanced television systems (ATV or high-definition television). WGBH recently addressed the Gore Committee on this subject, and was awarded funds from the U.S. Department of Education to facilitate further research and development in this area.

We continue to work with the entire Media Access division at WGBH, which, in addition to The Caption Center, includes the Emmy Award-winning Descriptive Video Service® (which makes television, videos, and films more meaningful to blind and low-vision viewers) and the CPB/WGBH National Center for Accessible Media, which extends our expertise developing access technologies to new venues, such as classrooms, the Web, and movie theaters.

Key Staff (all were working at The Caption Center in '92):
Lori Kay end Tom Apone—Co-Directors
Susan Schneider—Director of Marketing
Brad Botkin—Director, Systems Development
Annette Posell—Manager, Corporate Development
Mary Watkins—Communications Manager

APRIL 1992: SCSDB UNDER ATTACK



In June 1991, the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind, Spartanburg, became the focus of controversy. Within a relatively short time, four lawsuits and three civil-rights complaints were filed against SCSDB by former employees. One of these was the complaint filed with the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights by Lisa Rogers, an audiologist who had worked at SCSDB for slightly over a year (1989-90), charging the school with discrimination by accepting students who should be sent to public schools. Rogers became SCSDB's most outspoken opponent, although she had *never* complained about its admission policy, audiological criteria, or "disregard for human rights" while she was working there.

Her complaint and public statements drew a furious reaction from the Deaf community. Members of the South Carolina Association of the Deaf, SCSDB alumni and students, their parents and friends, were outraged. J. Charlie McKinney, SCAD Executive Director, participated in the newly-formed statewide Alliance Advocating Freedom of Parent Choice. He said, "We support the school 100% . . . We object mostly to Mrs. Rogers' belief that she is speaking on behalf of our deaf children. Who is she? We are the parents, the deaf consumers and students. She has no right to speak for us. She can't even communicate with us." There was a letter-writing campaign, a demand for a public apology, and, on February 28, 1992, a protest rally in downtown Spartanburg. Shortly afterwards, Rogers filed another complaint with the OCR, alleging that SCSDB had retaliated against her. After thorough investigation, her harassment complaint was dismissed in August 1992.

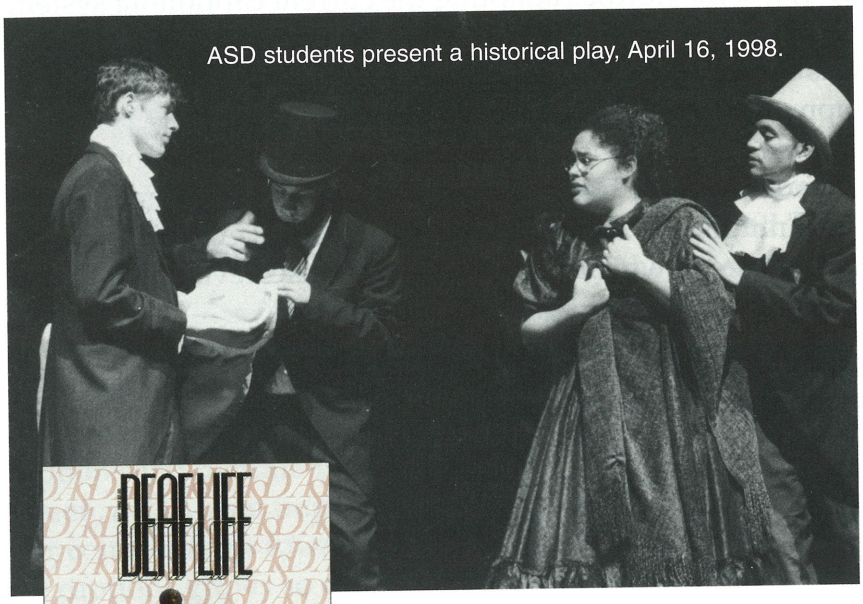
We have a brief update on Rogers' 1991 complaint against SCSDB from Steven W. Rhodes, SCAD President (who was also quoted in our April 1992 cover story):

"The Office of Civil Rights investigated the complaint and found it without merit. They dismissed it outright.

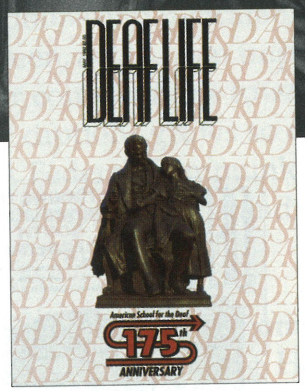
"Mrs. Rogers is still working as an audiologist with Spartanburg Ear, Nose and Throat—Head & Neck Surgery Clinic, P.A. Ever since the complaint was dismissed, she has been relatively quiet about the situation with SCSDB. She didn't do anything further."

South Carolina's Deaf community is still mourning McKinney's recent death.

MAY 1992: ASD'S 175th ANNIVERSARY



ASD students present a historical play, April 16, 1998.



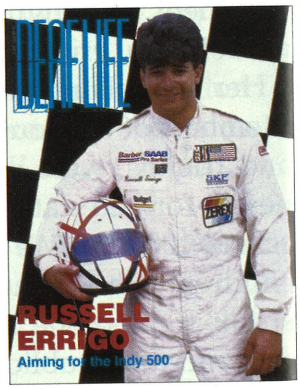
The American School for the Deaf celebrated its 175th anniversary in 1992, and its 181st a few months ago. Tom Missett of ASD's Development Office tells us:

ASD continues to thrive. Student enrollment is up and challenges continue to be met. A successful $2,000,000 campaign was completed in 1994, benefiting Early Childhood Programs, Professional Development, and technologies areas. A current $1,500,000 campaign has achieved 75% of its goal to upgrade educational technology at all grade levels.

Upper School Students have been participating in the "Aquanauts" Program, a high-level academic and scientific program in collaboration with the National Undersea Research Council and the University of Connecticut of Avery Point. Students are engaged in college-level courses and studying the effects of noise on the undersea environment and wildlife.

[As part of the festivities preceding the dedication of the new Clerc headstones in April,] our students, with professional assistance, put together a dramatic presentation on the founding of deaf education in America.

JUNE 1992: RUSS ERRIGO



Our previous update on Russ Errigo was included in the October 1995 **Deaf Life Plus**. We had received a fax from Deaf Motorsports announcing that Errigo would be entering the 1996 Indy Lights Series at Miami's Homestead Motorsports Complex on March 3, 1996. For the past 7 years, Errigo had competed in the International Motor Sports Association's Firestone Firehawk Series, Russell Formula Series, and the Shelby Can-Am Pro Series. He held the Shelby Can-Am track record at Willow Springs, California, and had 8 top-5 finishes in his career.

Errigo tells us that he is no longer racing. He was part owner of a Website, handling sales and marketing. The business wasn't profitable enough to justify the operating expenses, so Errigo and his partners decided to sell the site, "and have sold it successfully."

There are a handful of deaf racers in the United States. Greg Gunderson of Sioux Falls, Human Resources Officer at the South Dakota Association of the Deaf's Communication Service for the Deaf, is a sprint-car racer. He comes from a car-racing family, the "Racing Dirksons," and began competing in stock-car and enduro races when he was 17. He has won numerous championships and survived some bad injuries. "Actually, deafness has been an asset to me as a race-car driver," he told **SDAD News**. "I think my other senses are more attuned, giving me a better feel for the track and the car. I rarely lose my nerve or concentration because of sounds or noises that my competitors make when they are close behind me."

JULY 1992: TERRYLENE

Terrylene Sacchetti has resumed her career as an actress, appearing in new theater and movie productions. She had a guest role in the hit sitcom ***Doogie Howser, M.D.*** ("Doogie, Can You Hear Me?" fourth season, aired November 1992). Lead star Neil Patrick Harris learned to sign, too.

Terrylene had the lead role of Christa in Robert Manganelli's award-winning short film, ***Listen Carefully***, about a young Deaf mother trying to come to terms with the bitterness and pain of her past. It's haunting, dreamlike, poetic, and moving.

She played Unruly Julie in Oliver Stone's ***Natural Born Killers*** (1994), and Deaf Lover in Brad Silberling's ***City of Angels*** (1996). She was also Artistic Director of Deaf Arts Council in Santa Monica, California, a Deaf-theater group, and won a 1996 Christopher Reeve Scholarship.

After several years' absence from the stage, she appeared in the Fountain Theatre's acclaimed world-premiere production of Stephen Sachs' ***Sweet Nothing in My Ear***. She co-starred as Laura, the joyously Deaf mother of a recently-deafened boy, who opposes her husband's plans to get him fitted with a cochlear implant. Terrylene's 5-year-old son Gianni made his theatrical debut as Laura's son Adam. (See July 1997 update.) Terrylene brought her usual warmth and passion to the role, winning **Drama-Logue's** 1997 "Best Performance" award.

In May 1998, filming began in Rochester, New York, on ***Seeing in the Dark***, a moody thriller in which she plays a Deaf clairvoyant, Teva. The film-in-progress also stars Martin Sheen and Louise Fletcher.

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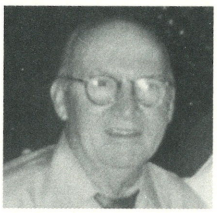

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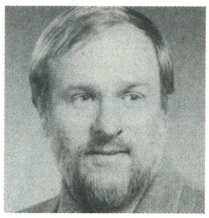

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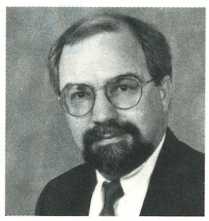

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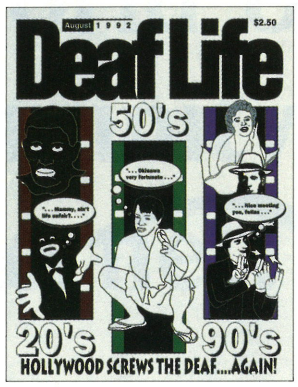
AUGUST 1992: HOLLYWOOD SCREWS THE DEAF

Columbia Pictures' ***Calendar Girl***, produced by Penny Marshall and Elliott Abbott and directed by John Whitesell, was released in August 1993. The casting of Kurt Fuller, a hearing actor with no previous experience in sign language, as Arturo Gallo, an ASL-Deaf character, was one of the notable stories of 1992. The released movie was one of the notable flops of 1993. After Columbia refused to reopen the auditions, the newly-formed Deaf Coalition began planning a coordinated nationwide protest/boycott. The Coalition had hoped that the Arturo Gallo character might be omitted from the finished cut, but it was retained. One advocate who saw a preview reported that Arturo's signing *was* done badly. Very badly.



On September 4, 1993, after ***Calendar Girl*** opened in Chicago, a high-spirited, well-organized group of 125 deaf and hearing people, recruited from Harper College in Palatine and the local Deaf community, picketed the movie at the Woodfield Theatre, distributed Deaf Awareness leaflets, made some impact, and got useful media coverage. The boycott was off to a good start. But ***Calendar Girl*** bombed in the cinemas and was quickly yanked from distribution. It was later released on home video, though.

On the brighter side, Mark Allen Branson had a small but choice role in Disney's 1993 remake of ***The Adventures of Huck Finn***. And Marlee Matlin continued her successful TV/movie career. (See June 1993 and October 1991 updates.)

The ***Calendar Girl*** flap may have unified the Deaf community, but didn't have much immediate effect on the big studios. Despite the fact that Deaf talent had won Academy, Tony, and Emmy Awards (for ***Children of a Lesser God*** and ***Love is Never Silent***), the number of signing and nonspeaking ("mute") movie roles—at least in Hollywood—dropped to practically zero. During 1994, the only Deaf performer cast for a big-screen role was Anthony Natale in ***Mr. Holland's Opus***, released in late 1995. Deaf performers were more fortunate in landing roles in television and theater. They were hired for commercials for Burger King, JCPenney, AT&T, Bayer Aspirin, and Kraft. Deaf theaters thrived artistically—and struggled to stay afloat financially.

Mr. Holland's Opus, starring Richard Dreyfuss in the title role, got *very* mixed reviews from critics, but was a hit with audiences—a blockbuster. Three deaf actors played Holland's son Cole. Anthony Natale, who played the adult Cole, became something of a superstar in the Deaf community.

Natale (who also had a bit part in ***Jerry Maguire***), performed at the second annual Sign Choir Festival in Forth Worth, Texas (September 28, 1996), and gave the keynote address at the banquet. After a February 1997 guest role on the hit sitcom ***Ellen***, he made an appearance on the June 9 installment of Cristina Ferrare's ***Home & Family Show***, teaching signs on-air and promoting a new video, ***How to Talk to a Person Who Can't Hear***. He starred in ***His Bodyguard*** (formerly titled ***Silent Echoes***), a new thriller-romance cable-movie that premiered July 22, 1998, on USA Network. Dreyfuss, by the way, was an honorary co-chair of NYDT's ninth annual Sweethearts' Benefit Gala and Auction (February 8, 1997), which was dedicated to Al B.'s memory.

Terrylene Sacchetti had small roles in Oliver Stone's ***Natural Born Killers*** (1994), and Brad Silberling's ***City of Angels*** (1996). (See July 1992 update.)

Meanwhile, the Deaf Entertainment Foundation began publication of an annual directory of deaf and hard-of-hearing actors, technicians, and skilled hearing interpreters, to combat the studios' Favorite Official Excuse that they couldn't find any suitable deaf talent.

ABC-TV's TV-movie ***Breaking Through*** premiered December 30, 1996. It was based on the true story of a young deaf Hispanic-American woman who was abused and enslaved by her brutal parents, finally escaped, was hospitalized for injuries sustained during her escape, and found refuge with a courageous counselor/advocate for battered women in Los Angeles. The TV-movie nominally shifted the action to Florida (although it was still shot in Los Angeles) and made the victim Caucasian. More controversial than the ethnic or geographical shifting was the casting of two hearing actresses, Kellie Martin as "Laura," the initially languageless deaf victim, and JoBeth Williams as "Pam," the partially-deafened counselor who champions her. Some Deaf viewers argued that Laura should have been played by a deaf actress. Terrylene Sacchetti organized a letter-writing campaign to producer Joel Rice, to no avail. (The official line was that the producers wanted "star names" to carry the movie.) ***Breaking Through*** featured deaf performers Aaron Kubey, Jennifer Delora, and Kathy Buckley in supporting roles, and numerous deaf extras, totaling over 25. It got mixed reviews. Some viewers liked it; others didn't.

The other movie controversy of 1997 was Sylvester Stallone's playing a hard-of-hearing cop in ***Cop Land***. There was some argument in the Deaf community about this. (But hearing actors have been playing hard-of-hearing characters ever since Shakespeare's first Julius Caesar told the first Marc Antony on the stage of the Globe, "Come on my right side, for this ear is deaf. . .")

1998 brought welcome news: the U.S. release (by Miramax) of ***Jenseits der Stille*** (***Beyond Silence***), a German film about a Deaf couple (Howie Seago and Emmanuelle Laborit) and their hearing daughter, a gifted musician. Initially ignored by most U.S. distributors, it received an Oscar nomination for "Best Foreign Film." (See April 1989 update.)

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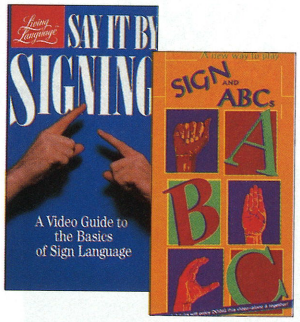

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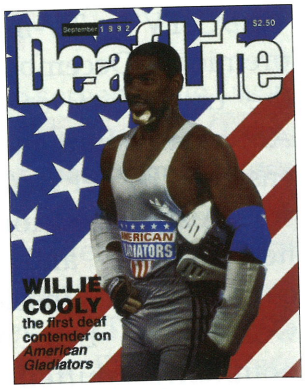
SEPTEMBER 1992: WILLIE COOLY



Willie Cooly (or Cooley—he seems to spell it both ways) competed on ***American Gladiators*** shortly after we ran our cover story on him. We saw "his" segment at the end of December 1992, as a rerun. He was defeated, but he certainly gave it his best. He gave those Gladiators a run for their money. Good try, all in all. Shortly afterwards, ***American Gladiators*** signed Shelley Beattie to its cast of regulars. It would have been exciting to see two well-matched deaf competitors—a Gladiator and a contender!

We were unable to reach Cooly, who had moved from his Virginia Beach address. Federal Express, where he had been working, didn't respond to our query about him.

OCTOBER 1992: STEPHANIE LONG
MISS DEAF AMERICA 1992-94

Stephanie Long & Matthew Cole.

We first met the energetic Stephanie Long in August 1992, and again on the Deafantasy SIGNsail Cruise later that summer, before she started her final year at CSUN. She has had a busy time since we met. We finally caught up her again. Her response:

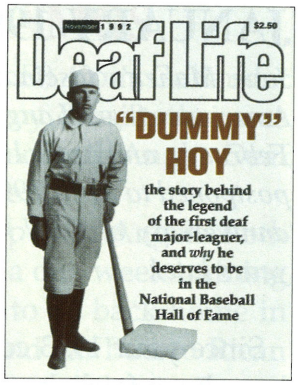
A warm welcome to Matthew Moore and **Deaf Life** staff. I'm flattered that you would like an update on my life. Here goes . . .

Since my title in 1992, I graduated from California State University, Northridge (May 1993), with a Bachelor of Arts in Speech Communication. I worked for the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf as the Sales Director for two years. After my departure, I was employed by Nordstrom's and Sherwood School in Highland Park, Illinois (a suburb of Chicago). The children at Sherwood School inspired me to pursue a career in education. Therefore, I returned to central Illinois and began the Master's program at Illinois State University. While a graduate student, I was an assistant and taught classes to Deaf Education majors for 1-1/2 years. I also taught at Praise and Leadership Academy, a private elementary school for hearing children. I have been a substitute teacher for the past year. I received my Master of Science in Education this past May.

I am blessed with a son, Matthew Cole (named after my brother, Matthew). He is my priority, my delight, and the love of my life. Cole will be one year old this summer.

I continue to entertain a fulfilling lifestyle. Thank you for your interest and best wishes to all!

NOVEMBER 1992: "DUMMY" HOY



Our two-part cover story on the long and colorful life of William Ellsworth "Dummy" Hoy (1862-1961), the first deaf major-leaguer, is being expanded into a full-length book, to be published by Deaf Life Press.

Even though Hoy still hasn't been inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York, the campaign to get him elected continues, and is gathering strength. (See September 1997 update.)

Several new baseball histories and biographies focusing on the early days mention Hoy, and new research has brought to light previously "lost" photos, anecdotes, and bits of information. Some updates on our sources:

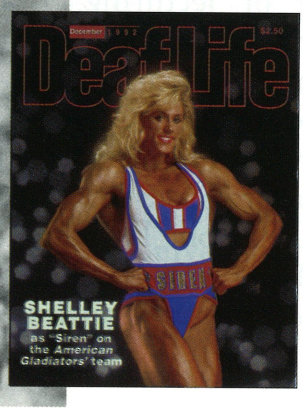
Ralph LinWeber, a leading authority on the careers of deaf baseball players, and *the* leading authority on baseball in Toledo, died on August 14, 1997, age 89. Shirley Povich, eminent sportswriter and columnist ("This Morning") for the **Washington Post**, and former president of the Baseball Writers Association of America, died on June 4, 1998, age 92. He had publicized Hoy's feats and wrote a moving tribute shortly after his death in December 1961. Steve Sandy, whose research, networking, and advocacy has proved invaluable to the cause, resigned from the Hoy Committee in March. The Hoy Committee, officially the USADSF Committee for "Dummy" Hoy (Randy Fisher, Robert D. Traina, Bob Panara, John Panara, and James Goodwin) has had its busiest year yet. It's been a year of frustration and disappointment, but also enthusiasm and hope.

DECEMBER 1992: SHELLEY BEATTIE

In 1994, Shelley Beattie got one of the 26 coveted spots on *America*^{3}, the first all-women crew to compete in the 1995 America's Cup, the world's top sailboat race.

"My experience with *America*^{3} was a very good one; I learned for the first time how to work with a team." (It wasn't practical to bring an interpreter on board, though.) We all had fun during the hard work. John was my biggest supporter through the whole experience." But "especially [with] all the parties and drinking at the night meetings, I really had a problem. Eventually I had to resign because my drinking got me into trouble. Just before the final race." She was also battling chronic depression.

Mountain-climbing in 1997.
(ED PASSARELLI/TWINLAB)



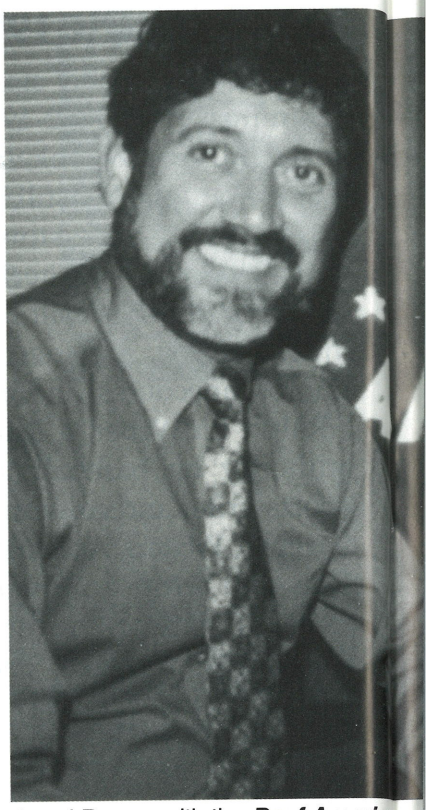
Even so, she made numerous TV appearances and was profiled, interviewed, and photographed for muscle, sailing, sports, and mainstream magazines. She even had a few bit parts in movies.

As Siren, she visited hospitalized survivors of the April 1995 Oklahoma City bombing, participated in Special Olympics, the Make-a-Wish Foundation, and did a PSA for BHI. As spokeswoman for "Joining Hands," she "helped raise money for kids and adults who had terminal illnesses.

"I left ***American Gladiators*** after 6 years with them because I hit rock bottom, and couldn't cope with my life anymore. Several doctors have diagnosed me with *manic depression* and I do very well with the right medicine. I'm going to counseling and to 12 Step meetings too. I know that someday I will be able to help others. I've always wanted to help somehow, I just didn't know how. I'm still learning. The most wonderful part is my life has now begun." :-))

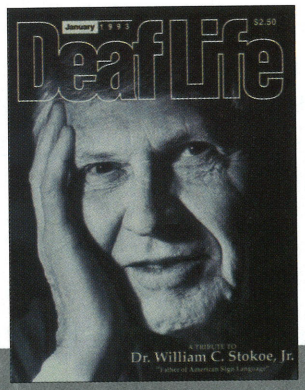
JANUARY 1993: DR. WILLIAM C. STOKOE

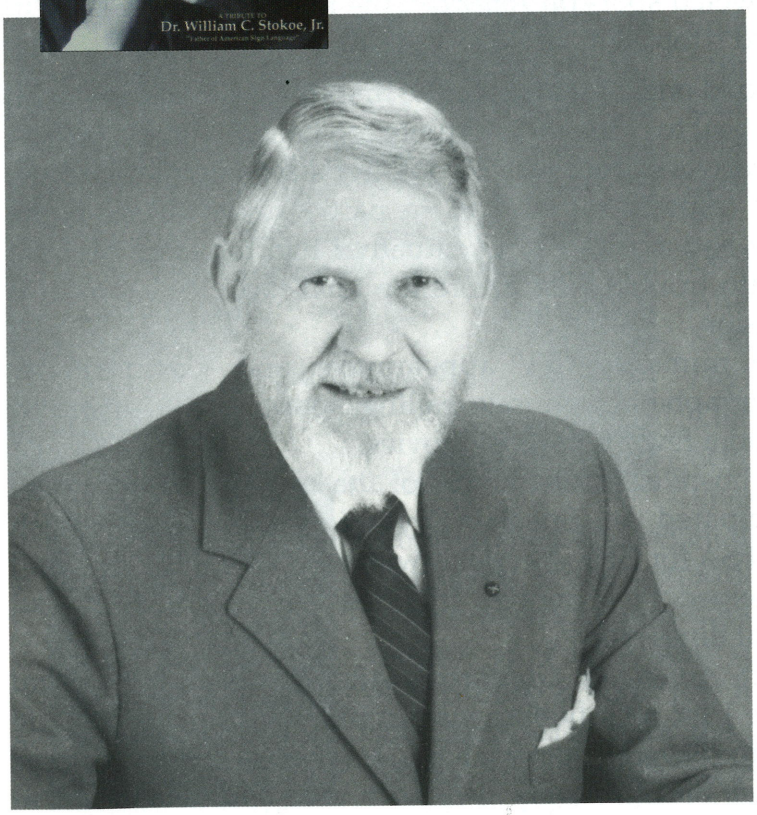
Jane Maher's fascinating biographical sketch of Dr. Stokoe, "the father of American Sign Language linguistics," appeared in three parts: January, February, and April 1993, our longest story to date, (The final installment was postponed to April 1993 because our March 1993 issue was devoted to the fifth anniversary of DPN.) Dr. Maher's full-scale biography was published a few years later.



Angel Ramos with the ***Deaf America*** logo on a TV screen.

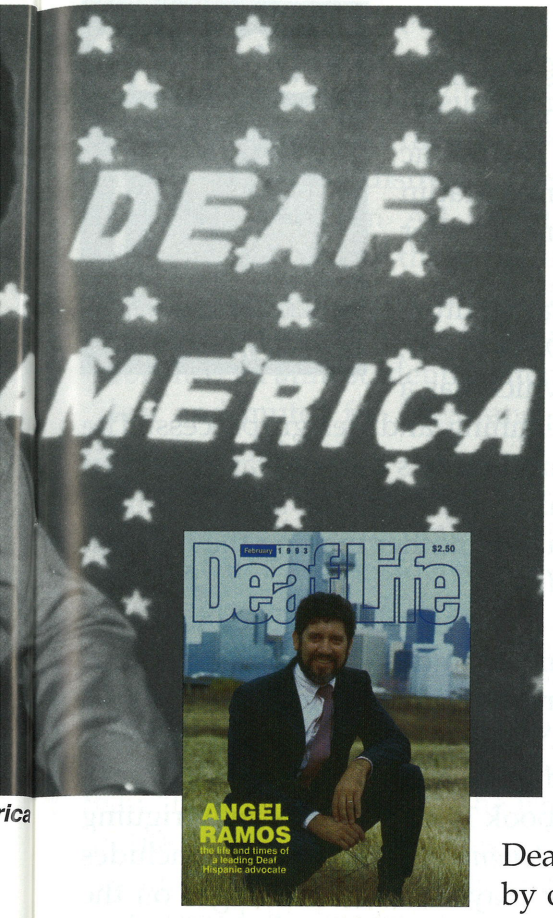
Since your 1993 cover article by Jane Maher appeared in **Deaf Life**, I have been fairly busy. Jane's book [**Seeing Language in Sign: The Work of William C. Stokoe**] was published by Gallaudet University Press in 1996, and a year earlier, **Gesture and the Nature of Language** by Armstrong, Stokoe, and Wilcox, was published by Cambridge University Press. Reviews of the latter continue to show that some readers at least understand its simple but revolutionary ideas. I have also been visiting scholar at NTID, commencement speaker at Madonna University, and had wonderful visits. to Trieste and Rome as guest of the Italian Association of the Deaf, and to Lisbon as guest of the Portuguese Association of the Deaf and the Association of Families of the Deaf. The American Academy of Arts and Sciences elected me a member in 1996, and I have lectured at several schools and colleges, participated in panels at one or two professional meetings a year—most recently the 150th anniversary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. And I have been now and then guest teacher in a real live class.





Writing is a pleasant way of spending time alone, but the opportunity to talk directly with students and answer their questions and find out what they are thinking is much more exciting than writing or lecturing. I also get great pleasure from conversations with scientists from many disciplines in the congenial atmosphere of the Cosmos Club, and I owe them thanks for my continuing education.

A year or so ago I decided that I wanted my ideas about language and its crucial beginning as sign language to reach general readers and not just specialists; so my book manuscript entitled *Language in Hand, or Chasing the Language Butterfly* is presently looking, with an agent's help, for a publisher.



FEBRUARY 1993: ANGEL RAMOS

I received my Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) from Gallaudet University in September 1997. The title of my dissertation was "Comparing the Predisposition of Hispanic and Anglo Deaf Students Toward Postsecondary Attendance."

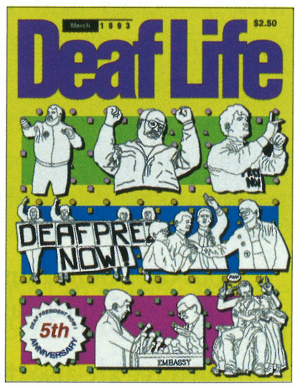
I recently went to Puerto Rico, teaming up with Angela Roth from Florida, another Puerto Rican, to give a one week training on ASL to future interpreters. It was great to be back home in Puerto Rico, speak Puerto Rican Spanish, and eat Puerto Rican food. I am still full from eating Cancún pork chops in Ponce. (Anyone from PR will tell you these are gigantic, delicious pork chops that folks will drive hours to eat.)

Of course, I have been, and continue to be, involved in numerous community activities, committees, and boards.

I am currently the producer and host of a monthly one-hour television program, ***Deaf America***, aired in various cities throughout Texas and the U.S., and shown at schools for the Deaf. ***Deaf America*** takes a coast-to-coast, non-political look at the fascinating people and complex perspectives that form the fabric of our Deaf world. It aims to entertain, educate, and empower Deaf individuals as well as hearing members of the Deaf community. The format consists of interviews/performances by outstanding Deaf individuals, a segment on Deaf Culture, and a segment on American Sign Language. Occasionally there are special one-hour programs that focus entirely on one individual or event. ***Deaf America*** is aimed primarily at adults and high-school students, although students of younger age will find the program content entertaining and enjoyable.

One of the main goals of ***Deaf America*** is to expose viewers to the subcultures within the Deaf community. To attain this goal, individuals will be selected to appear on ***Deaf America*** in a manner that will ensure that the accomplishments, activities, and talents of people of all colors are presented to the viewers.

MARCH 1993: DPN's 5th ANNIVERSARY



March 8-12, 1993, marked the fifth anniversary of DPN. The memories were still vivid and the feelings strong. Even though Dr. Jordan had been on the cover of our first monthly issue, and we had published a cover story on his inauguration, we had never before devoted a cover story to DPN. We invited several key DPN participants to share their recollections and views. We published the responses we received from activist Angel Ramos, and historian Jack R. Gannon, and the four student leaders—Bridgetta Bourne-Firl, Jerry Covell, Greg Hlibok, and Tim Rarus. We were pleased with the responses, as were our readers.

We had one major disappointment. We tried to contact Jane Bassett Spilman, the former Chairman of Gallaudet University's Board of Trustees and the target of nationwide outrage and resentment for her perceived insults to deaf people and her "autocratic" behavior. We wanted her own story, and were eager to see what she had to say. We never received a response from her, though.

APRIL 1993: The I.L.Y. STAMPS

A set of two attractive "Deaf Communication" postage stamps featuring the "I Love You" sign, designed by Chris Calle, were issued in Burbank, California, on September 20, 1993, during Deaf Awareness Week. The public first-day-of-issue ceremony took place in the Starlight Bowl. Marlee Matlin participated, along with Joseph J. Mahon, Jr., USPS's Vice President of Labor Relations, and comedienne Kathy Buckley.

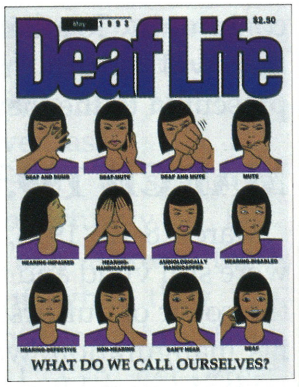
The USPS publicly credited several deaf organizations (National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, NAD, GLAD, TRIPOD, NCOD/CSUN, etc.), and the American Postal Workers Union, which has a large number of deaf members, for their participation in the planning and design process. The NAD had in fact been unaware of what was going on at USPS until Calle's design was approved and published. APWU carried considerable influence in winning approval for an ILY stamp. USPS's Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee liked Calle's sketch of a mother making the ILY sign to her baby. APWU preferred the single hand. So both were used.

As chair of NAD's **ILY Stamp** Committee, philatelist Kenneth S. Rothschild had been lobbying for an ILY stamp since 1987—seemingly without luck. He organized an design competition; four winning designs were chosen at the 1992 NAD Convention. Before the designs could be sent to the CSAC, USPS unveiled its 1993 stamps, which included Calle's ILY pair. Rothschild was told that it was too late to have any of the Deaf artists' designs incorporated in the issue.

George Amick's article in **Linn's Stamp News** (U.S. Stamp Yearbook 1993) provides an intriguing look at the story behind the ILY stamps and the unusual *se-tenant* (paired) design, includes preliminary sketches, comments from Rothschild and other key players, and sheds light on the mystery of how the USPS had managed to take an idea from the Deaf community and then bypass that community. (Amick also quoted from **Deaf Life's** June 1993 issue.)

Rothschild's next step: to resume lobbying for a Laurent Clerc stamp. (See December 1995 update.) He says, "The strongest effort would come from a concentrated [group] campaign."

MAY 1993: WHAT DO WE CALL OURSELVES?



Most of the inappropriate terms cited in our cover story are still in circulation. We are still seeing unacceptable usage in the mass media: "deaf-mute," "deaf and mute," "deaf-and-dumb," "mute(s)," and the tiresome euphemism "hearing-impaired." Even the prestigious **New York Times** and **Newsweek**, whose writers really should know better, have used "deaf and mute" and "deaf-mute" with abandon. We saw an explosion in the usage when the news broke about the Deaf Mexican immigrants and trinket-peddling rings in other cities. Three examples:

> Four deaf-mute immigrants nervously walked into a police precinct in Queens, N.Y., last weekend with a story that horrified city and federal officials. (From a **Miami Herald** article by Liz Balmaseda, July 23, 1997)

> The three are also deaf and mute. (...) The four victims were the couple and their children, ages 14 and 15. The children are not deaf or mutes. (From a Reuters release about the arrest of a peddling-ring boss in Fabens, Texas, March 12, 1998)

> As deaf and mute Sam (Anthony Natale) works alone after hours at the high-tech bio-engineering firm his father owns, criminals break into the building . . . (From a USA Network media release about ***His Bodyguard***, June 1998)

The way several newspapers reported the death of Tom Bennett, who died while trying to rescue his beloved Rottweiler from an iced-over fishing pond, caused the deaf members of his family additional distress. The **New Castle News** published an AP report (January 19, 1998) that concluded thus: "Bennett, who was deaf and dumb, was devoted to his dog, neighbors said." The **Pittsburgh Herald** published an almost identical item, substituting "deaf and mute" for "deaf and dumb." Some improvement!

Readers who contacted newspapers and radio/TV stations to complain about this were told that it was considered acceptable usage. Acceptable to whom?

And, yes, we have seen "hearing-challenged" used as a supposedly more "dynamic" or "upbeat" version of "hearing-impaired." "Hearing-challenged" is even more ridiculous than "hearing-impaired." The irritating misuse of the word "challenge" as a substitute for "incapacity" or "handicap" has become so widespread, it's become a cliché and a joke.

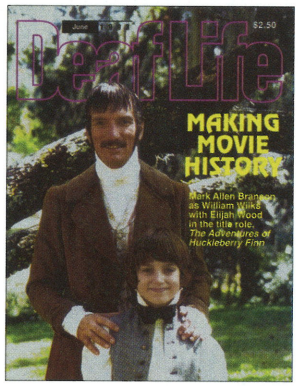
It seems that some hearing reporters (and others) will go to extraordinary lengths to avoid using the word "deaf." Why? An AT&T release (February 1997) about TRS, which is otherwise sensitively written, contains this statement: "Many hearing disabled individuals communicate mainly through American Sign Language (ASL), a language built on concepts rather than words and therefore difficult to translate literally into English."

And as Dorothy Hammond recounts: "I work in special education. One of the teachers corrected me for referring to a student as **deaf**, saying 'It's not politically correct to call a pupil deaf. We're now supposed to identify them as "a person with the disability of deafness."' How do you like **that** one? Does it make you more comfortable?"

What happens when we have the power to name ourselves? The "ID tags" used by deaf people on the Internet are often playful, imaginative, and funny. We guess that's one reason why deaf people are so enthusiastic about the Internet. We can call ourselves whatever we please.

A sidenote: Judging from the permission-to-reprint requests we've received over the years, this has been one of our most popular cover stories. The "Twelve Faces" over design, which we used on sweatshirts, is still popular, too.

JUNE 1993: MARK BRANSON IN *HUCK FINN*



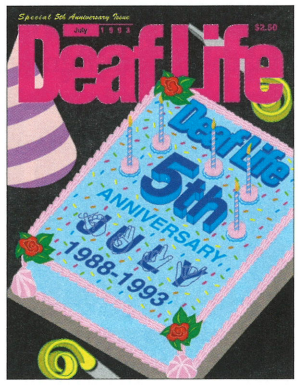
Disney's 1993 version of Mark Twain's classic novel, **The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn**, was panned for being too politically-correct and "utterly unimaginative." Other critics found things to like—good performances, the overall look.

Disney's remake was the first to feature a deaf actor, Mark Allen Branson, in the small role of William Wilks. Branson gave the role the touch of authenticity that no hearing actor could have done. Three-and-a-half years later, he died of a brain hemorrhage, age 41. ***The Adventures of Huck Finn*** was his first and last movie role.

Last July, Arlene M. Velleman (who provided photos and recollections for our March 1997 tribute to Mark Branson) requested permission to use a photo-transfer of our June 1993 cover as part of the panel she was making for the NAMES Project Memorial Quilt. We were glad to oblige and honored to have a **Deaf Life** cover incorporated into Mark Branson's Quilt panel.

About the movie, she says: "I know it was the highlight of Mark's career. It was an experience he loved and felt so proud of. He also saw it as an important point in Deaf History that the role of William Wilks was played by a Deaf actor—not a hearing actor portraying a Deaf character, as had been done previously. The movie lives on. It has been on network and local television stations and the Disney channel from time to time."

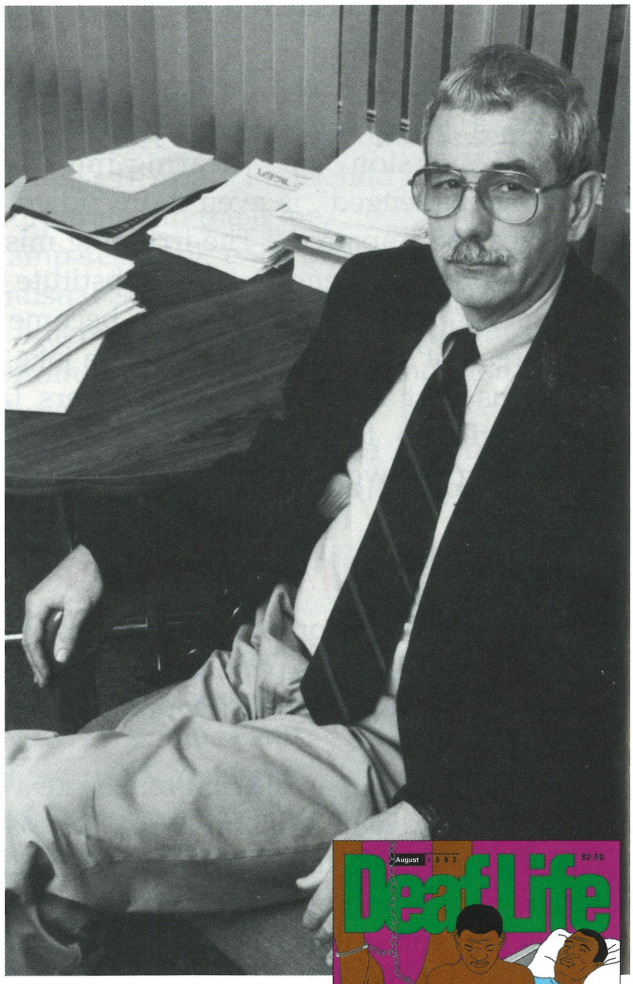
JULY 1993: OUR 5th ANNIVERSARY



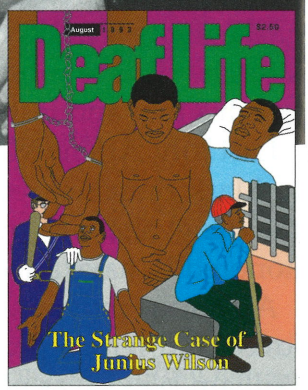
Our 5th Anniversary issue was our biggest issue to date: a total of 94 pages, including a gloss section of 64 pages in full color. It contained updates of our first 48 cover stories (July 1988 through June 1992), a history of **Deaf Life**, a relay-service map, and a complete **Deaf Life** index, from the Trial Issue (July 1987) through June 1993.

This special issue was a big hit with readers, and is now a collector's item. Some things haven't changed at all since we published it. As the Publisher's Note observed: "Five years after we published our first monthly issue, we remain a tiny, chronically understaffed and overworked team—but we take deep satisfaction in knowing that we're doing vital work and having an impact on people's attitudes about the Deaf reality." Due to the expansion of Deaf Life Press and the launching of our new Website, our workload has increased. There is always more to be done!

AUGUST 1993: JUNIUS WILSON



Junius Wilson's guardian, John Wasson, with Wilson's bulky file on the table, in 1993. (TOM COPELAND/ **GREENSBORO NEWS & RECORD**)

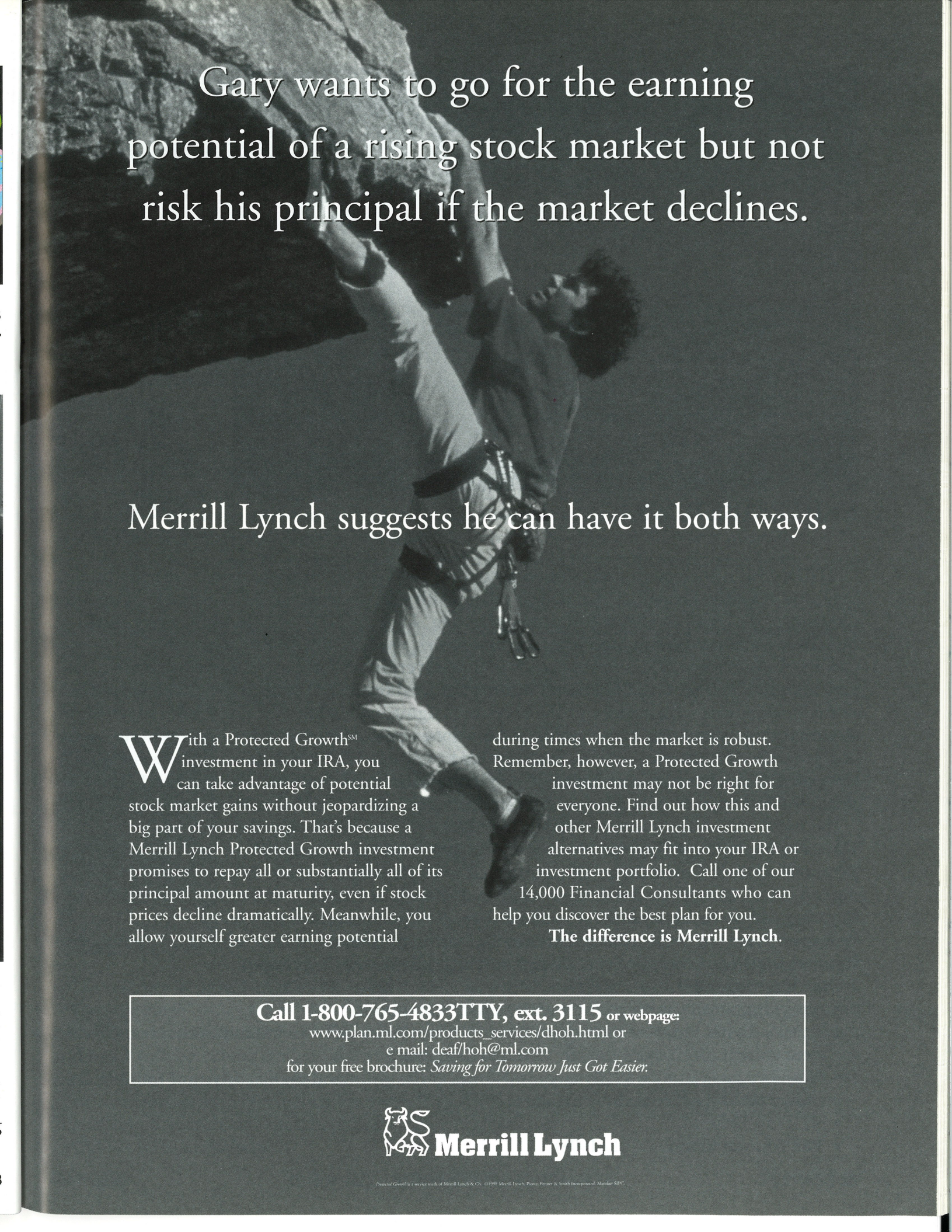


Junius Wilson was 17 years old when he was arrested, falsely charged with assault and attempted rape, declared insane, and sent to Cherry Hospital in Goldsboro, North Carolina's asylum for blacks. Soon after his arrival in November 1925, he was castrated. Seventy-two years later, he was finally freed. Updates on this case appeared in the February 1995 and March 1996 **Deaf Life Plus**.

Stephan P. Kugel of Valdese, North Carolina, kept us posted on new developments. The November 8, 1997 **Charlotte Observer** had a front-page update on the case, and a photo of Wilson. (We received no response from Wilson's guardians—his lawyer or social worker. Cherry Hospital would not provide a photo or make any comment.)

In February 1994, Wilson moved into a comfortable cottage on the hospital grounds, where he could receive around-the-clock health care, supervision, and sign-language access. (He uses the Raleigh dialect.) In November 1997, U.S. District Judge Earl Britt approved a settlement that guaranteed him these benefits for the rest of his life. Wilson also received $114,737. This settlement was expected to resolve a $150 million lawsuit filed on Wilson's behalf in 1994 by his cousin, Andre Branch of Seattle. Wilson's lawyers, who negotiated the settlement, were willing to "fight it to the bitter end" but were concerned that he would die before getting any financial benefits. The case could have gotten tied up in appeals for years. The money will go towards enhancing the quality of his remaining days.

Wilson, whose age is now estimated as 90, enjoys going for car rides, eating out, and taking fishing trips.



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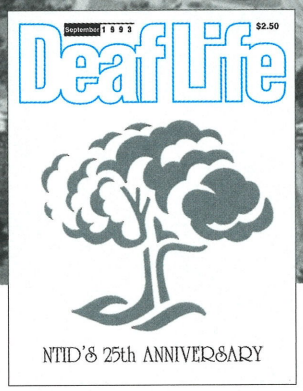
A recent aerial view of the NTID and RIT campus. (NTID)



SEPTEMBER 1993:
NTID'S 25th ANNIVERSARY

NTID's 25th Anniversary and Alumni Reunion (July 7-10, 1993) was a smash, despite broiling heat. (By the way, Leonard Urso, master silversmith and professor in RIT's School of American Craftsmen, designed the "flowering crabapple tree" logo for NTID's 25th Anniversary—used on our cover—and the variant logo with human profiles, used for the Alumni Reunion.)

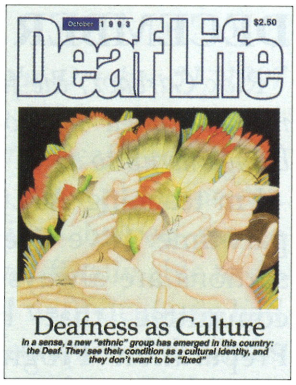
In the 5 years since NTID celebrated its 25th anniversary, NTID has continued to evolve. It's a rare month that **Deaf Life Plus** hasn't included at least one NTID press release! There have been numerous changes on campus: e.g., the boom in imaging, video, Internet, and E-mail technologies. Restructuring is ongoing. New buildings have gone up, existing buildings have been renovated, old programs have been scrapped and replaced with new ones. Equipment is constantly being upgraded. There have been retirements, promotions, deaths, departures, new staffers, honors, and notable achievements. And, always, deaf students from all sorts of backgrounds.

The most significant event in NTID's history is, of course, the appointment of Dr. Robert R. Davila as its first deaf Director. (See November 1990 update.) Appropriately, RIT President Albert J. Simone communicated the good news to Dr. Davila directly, via TTY—without using TRS. It was a good omen. Dr. Simone had already endeared himself to the NTID community by learning sign language when he became RIT President. (No previous president had bothered to do so.) He delivered some well-rehearsed remarks in sign during his inaugural speech, but at the July 1993 Reunion, he gave a complete speech in sign. The audience was impressed.

Other highlights are:

- A new high-tech learning center with "smart" classroom.
- Sprint's digital-videoconferencing system. (Those who remember and miss Vistaphones, which were used at NTID from 1970 to 1983, are delighted.)
- Wrestler Matt Hamill's WGD medals. He will probably attend regular Olympic training camp and go on to the Games in Australia.
- NTID's CD-ROM.
- 30th Alumni Reunion (July 1998).

OCTOBER 1993: DEAFNESS AS CULTURE



The Atlantic Monthly, a prestigious journal of opinion focusing on political, cultural, and social issues, published Edward Dolnick's "Deafness as Culture" as its September 1993 cover story. We reprinted it in full in our October 1993 issue, together with Etienne Delessert's original illustrations. Dolnick's article is still timely, and continues to provoke debate. Here's his response:

Thanks for the kind words about "Deafness as Culture." Of all the articles I've written over the past ten or fifteen years, it's the one that seems to have taken on a life of its own. I continually get letters from college professors and from publishers who want to include it on reading lists or in textbooks. The college classes range pretty broadly—some are in the anthropology department, others are in education, or politics, or language, or sociology.

I came to write the **Atlantic** piece by happenstance. We met a (hearing) couple with two deaf children. They were looking into cochlear implants, which they had presumed would be a decision as straightforward as purchasing a pair of eyeglasses, and were amazed to find they had wandered into a battlefield. Which set me to trying to learn something about what was going on. (One further note—the story I eventually wrote struck them as misguided and biased in favor of Deaf culture. Their two boys do have implants and are in a public high school and apparently doing quite well.)

I wrote the article as an outsider—I am a hearing person with no personal connection to the Deaf community—and the surprise to me was the gulf between a viewpoint that hearing people find so bewildering and that many deaf people find so natural. Many, but not all. I was taken to task by some oralists, who angrily accused me of having been fooled by cultists and extremists. These confrontations were not too pleasant, but I knew I was getting into charged territory.

I don't know what value, if any, the article had for the Deaf community. I think it did have value for the hearing world, though, because it helped to make people think that at least there might be SOMETHING to a point of view that they were inclined to reject as ludicrous.

NOVEMBER 1993: CATHY NOBLE

Cathy Noble, who served as RIT's first deaf Campus Security officer in 1993, now lives and works in Denver, Colorado. She earned her Master's in Social Work from the University of Denver. She's President of the Colorado Association of the Deaf, and told us in early July, "I have been so busy, trying to fulfill my work and CAD commitments!"

After our cover story was published, we learned that Noble was *not* the first deaf security officer in the nation, as we had thought. Chris Hunter of Lansing faxed us an article about a policewoman, Deputy Susie Grappe Cambre of Hammond, Louisiana, and A. Walker Estes of Baton Rouge notified us about John Byrd, a campus-security officer at Louisiana School for the Deaf. (See February 1994 "Letters.") We reached both. Byrd founded LSD's security department in 1958, and retired in May 1997 after working on campus for 40 years.

"Deputy Susie" is, as far as we know, the first deaf certified police officer. She fought long and hard to get admitted to the force. She wears a uniform and badge, carries a gun, drives a patrol car, and has a trained canine companion. Her current partner is "Sheriff Whiskers," a Schnauzer. She works for the Tangipahoa Parish, dealing with crimes such as carjackings and homicides, and has done extensive community-education work (e.g., drug-abuse prevention with children and teens). She has good speech and speechreading skills, but signs, too.

And . . . there are others!

DECEMBER 1993: RICK GARBACZ

Rick Garbacz, the first (and so far only) deaf faculty member hired by Southwest Texas State University, brings us up to date:

I'm teaching ASL at Austin Community College part-time. [I've been there since 1994.] My class sections are always full. I served on the advisory committee that helped start an Interpreter Preparation Program. Also served on ACC's interview/screening committee; it resulted in the hiring of Byron Bridges as full-time IPP instructor.

Texas Deaf Caucus presented an Award of Appreciation to me for my service in initiating the state legislative action that led to the new law [1995] requiring all ASL teachers in Texas public-school districts to be certified in teaching ASL as a Foreign/Second Language. (It doesn't affect college/university instructors who teach ASL.)

[Together with Sarah McAvoy and Alexander Genievsky, I founded the Austin Sign Language Theatre Academy.] I'm on the board of directors. Right now it's inactive, but we've had two successful productions: ***The Bear*** (1996) and ***The Doctor in Spite of Himself*** (1997). We were invited to present ***The Bear*** at the International Festival in Barcelona, Spain, in December 1996.

JANUARY 1994: CELEBRATING *CELEBRATION*

(D.E.A.F. MEDIA)

Chuck Baird and friends at work.

Dr. Susan Rutherford, Executive Director of D.E.A.F. Media since 1980, tells us:

In the 17 years since *Celebration: Deaf Artists and Performers* first began, it was produced 8 times, almost exclusively with volunteer labor and of in-kind contributions. In recent years, as volunteer time and financial resources have become more scarce, so too have the productions.

But as the first sustained forum for Deaf arts and for scholarship about Deaf culture, *Celebration* is still important because of the political impact it had. *Celebration* [originally associated with U.C. Berkeley] continues to be used as an example by other universities in the pursuit of ASL recognition and as a model for other Deaf-culture festivals.

D.E.A.F. Media has existed since 1974, and I continue to pursue its advocacy goals with a number of projects: Deaf Education and Arts Network (DEAN), Deaf Artists' Workshops at the Oakland Museum, San Francisco's *Storytelling Festival*, and *Deaf Culture-Our Way*. D.E.A.F. Media is a co-sponsor of the *Deaf Studies 6 Conference*, to be held in the San Francisco Bay Area in April 1999.

D.E.A.F. Media's best-known project may be on hold while we seek funds to resume its production, but the spirit of *Celebration* lives and the rest of our work continues.

FEBRUARY 1994: "DEAF CHILD" SIGNS

This is taken from the editorial by Cecelia Klassen of Vancouver, B.C., Canada, in the October 31, 1997 ***Family Network for Deaf Children Newsletter****. (See January 1996 update.)*

When my daughter Mari was 2, I "advocated" to have 'Deaf Pedestrian' signs placed in my neighbourhood to make our street a safer place for her. To my amazement, two signs were erected. These signs helped me to overcome the grief (I thought) of having a deaf child. I was finally able to do something concrete. To that point, everything associated with deafness had been so out of my control. The signs made me like I had conquered deafness (how stupid could I be?), yet the signs never really did anything for Mari.

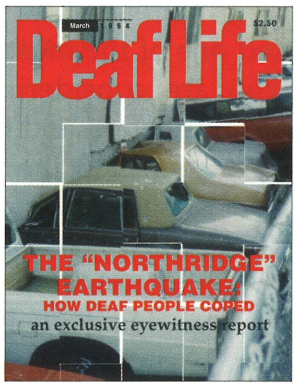
As soon as the signs went up, the high-schoolers in the neighborhood took great glee in honking twice every time they passed them—which drove me crazy. I wanted to chase them and scream, "You don't know what it's like to have a deaf child, and now you're making a joke out of this!!!" The cars never did slow down. We soon realized that a couple of red construction cones at the end of the cul-de-sac would alert the drivers to do that. Those red cones really made a big difference—for all the kids, not just Mari.

Mari is now 7. Recently, when we were out for a walk, Mari looked up at the sign and asked, "What does 'pedestrian' mean?" I explained the word and she looked up with questioning eyes, "Who are the other deaf people here?" I was speechless (or signless). Her face said it all—she realized the sign was for her. "For me???", she said. HORRORS! The took in her eyes told me *it was time*. So I called the city and asked them to please take the signs down.

The signs were great . . . they served their purpose, both out on the street and in our hearts. We took picture of them because they are a historical part of our family 'story': grieving parents, a family learning sign language, and finally the story of acceptance.

As the signs were unbolted, I kept wanting to scream, "Put them back—I'm not ready!" I sat with my cup of coffee in my living room. I cried, and I realized *it's time* . . . time to begin the next chapter of life . . . so much lies ahead and I'm not prepared . . . but I know *it's time* . . . time to move on.

MARCH 1994: NORTHRIDGE EARTHQUAKE

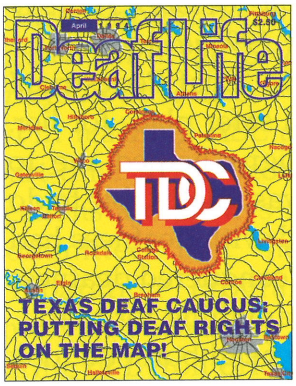


The attractive apartment complex where Patti and Ken Goulston were living when the earthquake struck (photographs of the inside and outside were featured in the story), was not demolished, but rebuilt. Bob Arnold told us, "They did not completely destroy it but rebuilt the foundations and like a toy building they managed to get it back right in place."

As for the people: "Christine Buchholz (CB), I believe, is still in Seattle. Robyn Biser has moved away and is now living in Kansas." (Their condo was located practically in the epicenter of the earthquake.) "As for myself, I'm living with Eddie Ewald, after having lived in Seattle for a year. Lilly Benedict and I parted in March '95, and she's engaged to Barry Crisman." Fred Lovitch is Production Manager of Deafywood Production Company. (See January 1990 update.) He and Debijo still live in the Northridge-Van Nuys area.

Joseph Slotnick says: "As for me, am still living in same place, watching the new building rise where the old apartment complex had collapsed and killed 16 people. It is a majestic building, indeed. There are still reminders (in the form of new construction) of the devastation of January 17, 1994, but I am certain there are no 'ruins' still lying around for one to look at. 'We are always concerned about the next one.' Hmm, isn't this what they all say when devastation comes in, such as the tornado recently in Nashville??? Life goes on, no matter what, as we all know."

APRIL 1994: TEXAS DEAF CAUCUS

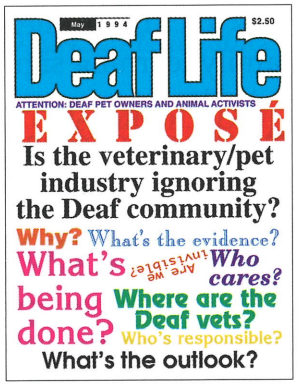


Angel Ramos provided an update:

Since its founding [1990-91], Texas Deaf Caucus has proved its value to the deaf community. TDC was successful in pushing a bill in the Texas Legislature requiring ASL teachers to be certified [1995]. As a result, anyone who teaches ASL in the Texas public-school system must now pass a test, both written and expressive. TDC was also successful in pushing the Deaf Children's Bill of Rights in the Texas Legislature [1997]. After the bill was defeated in the previous legislative session, TDC rolled up its sleeves and, under the leadership of Jerry Hassell of Austin, was able to get all the various constituency groups together, including TAD. Together they worked successfully to pass the bill that had earlier been defeated. This was a great example of what can be accomplished when everyone works together toward a common goal.

TDC's success has been measured not only by its accomplishments at the state level, but also at the local level. TDC members have received valuable leadership opportunities. In Dallas, for example, TDC members have been instrumental in pushing for improvements in the Regional Day School Programs for the Deaf, for hosting the yearly Deaf Celebration activities, and in efforts to establish a Charter School. In Houston, TDC members were instrumental in hosting a successful Timberfest and have been concentrating on raising funds for a Deaf community center. TDC—Teamwork, Dedication and Community—has accomplished much in its short lifetime, but plenty more still needs to be done. TDC has just begun. . .

MAY 1994: THE VETERINARY/PET INDUSTRY



Our May 1994 cover story focused on deaf people and the veterinary/pet industry, the barriers of attitude and ignorance, the plight of deaf veterinarians, and the frustration of deaf pet-owners, while noting some encouraging signs. Written by Lair Scott, founder of the Modern Animal News bureau, it was one of the most hard-hitting articles we've published, and one of the most popular. We still get inquiries from young deaf people who are considering veterinary careers, but are worried about facing discrimination and lack of accessible communication and opportunities.

We contacted the veterinarians whom Scott had interviewed, but didn't get responses. Nor could we reach Scott. Modern Animal News evidently doesn't exist anymore. We received no response from the American Veterinary Medical Association, either.

We did receive a response from Dr. Shelly Rubin, Chief of Staff, Blum Animal Hospital in Chicago. He gave us some additional leads, and told us that Dr. Candice Corriber of AVMA has done a survey on deaf and hard-of-hearing veterinarians and veterinary students, and that Dr. Thomas A. McDavitt (formerly at Sedgwick County Zoo in Wichita, Kansas) now lives and works in Itasca, Illinois. But we couldn't reach him.

Dr. Rubin tells us: "Blum Animal Hospital was the first hospital in the entire Chicago area to put a TTY in use. Our practice is in the heart of Chicago with approximately 20,000 clients (the people), which represents approximately 26,000 patients (the animals). Our TTY number is on our business card and I would have thought that the deaf community would utilize it more than they do. I would say that we get approximately 2-3 calls per week, most of which are not clients but people asking advice and information. We have 4 clients who use the TTY regularly. . . . We would gladly [reduce fees] for [deaf] clients, especially those with 'hearing dogs.' I have my hand out to help and volunteer many hours for the Delta Society's Service Dog Committee."

Real People...
Real Services.

• Youth Services -

Teen Institute is a week-long training camp designed to empower deaf and hard-of-hearing youth to act as leaders in the prevention of drug and alcohol abuse and raise awareness of such issues as HIV/AIDS and gang violence.

• 24-Hour Crisis Line Services -

- Deafline Missouri—a crisis hotline provided to deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals across Missouri. This is the only number that provides statewide services to deaf individuals in crisis. 1-800-380-DEAF (3323)

- Mid-Missouri Crisis Line—a general crisis hotline for both hearing and deaf individuals. It is an excellent service for both those who just need someone to talk to or those in a crisis situation. 1-888-761-HELP (4357)

• Victim Services -

MLI is the only agency to provide victim services targeted towards deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals across the state of Missouri. In addition to legal advocacy, free counseling and referral services, training programs are also available to shelters, emergency personnel and law enforcement.

• Other Services -

- Free counseling to the deaf and hard of hearing
- Free training in the use of TTY services and other equipment
- American Sign Language and Deaf Culture classes for both deaf and hearing individuals
- Resource center providing information about deafness, special equipment and other agencies that provide deaf services

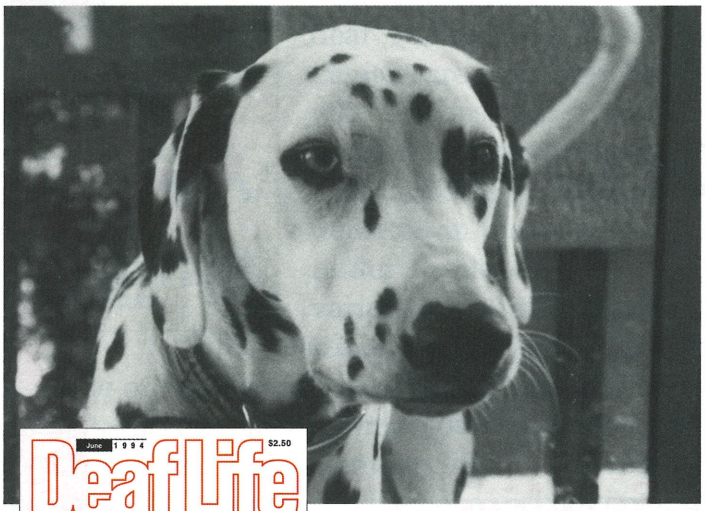
Midwest

Institute

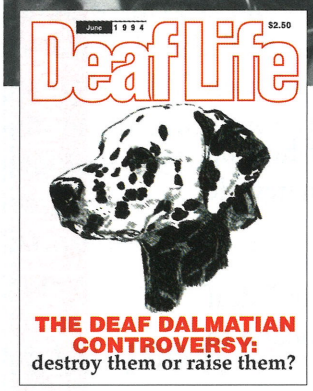
Leadership through Education & Advocacy for the Deaf

Midwest L.E.A.D. Institute 409 Vandicer rd., Bldg. 4, Ste. 400 Columbia, MO 65202 (573) 817-2400

JUNE 1994:
DEAF DALMATIANS



(KAREN POWELL/A.H.S.)



Beethoven had a short but cherished life. His adoptive family still misses him.

Since we published our "Dalmatian issue" (one of our most popular), there has been a "boom" in awareness about deaf dogs, and interest in raising and training them. There is an enthusiastic E-mail network of owners of deaf dogs—some of whom have even set up popular Websites.

The release of Disney's live-action version of ***101 Dalmatians*** led to another boom in the popularity of the breed—with the predictable results: backyard breeding, uneducated owners discovering, the hard way, that Dals are not cute and cuddly living toys but high-energy, demanding dogs. And the most tragic consequence: an upsurge in the number of abandoned and abused Dalmatian puppies received by animal shelters, not all of whom find good homes.

The controversy surrounding deaf Dalmatians is raging just as fiercely as ever. Perhaps more so. The Dalmatian Club of America still maintains that all deaf puppies should be euthanized. We received a thoughtful, articulate response from Dr. Charles J. Garvin of Ohio, DCA President, explaining the DCA's position. (We'll be publishing it in full later.)

Of course there are anecdotal stories of successful deaf Dalmatians, and certainly some hearing Dalmatians can be bad actors. However, our many, many years of collected experience knows that there is a much greater probability that a deaf Dalmatian will become aggressive or mean, bite a youngster—frequently at the face level—or be injured or killed by traffic.

Is it better to take a slim chance that a deaf puppy will turn out, with hours of work, to be an acceptable companion? The nation has an excess of Dalmatians and the shelters and rescue organizations are crowded with dogs that will be killed. Any deaf puppy rescued will mean another hearing puppy will be destroyed. The better choice for any home would be to invest the many years of dedication, work, and love on a hearing puppy that has a much higher probability of a long successful life as a family member.

But owners of deaf Dals are becoming more outspoken against what they perceive as a fear campaign sustained with hearsay and misinformation.

Maureen Hannon of Sterling, Connecticut, wrote to **Dog World** last year:

> In response to Elaine Waldorf Gewirtz's Dalmatian article in the April 1997 issue, I own a male Dalmatian named Jacob. He's happy, beautiful, smart, headstrong, athletic—all the typical Dal traits—and he happens to be deaf. Deaf Dals are not any different [from] hearing Dals.
>
> Most owners of deaf dogs don't bother with training because of the negative attitudes encountered from the authorities who lead them to expect failure. Simple obedience training and socialization, required for any dog to be well-adjusted, work just as well on deaf dogs as on hearing ones. If people in the dog biz continue to discourage ownership of deaf dogs, they should run a disclaimer stating they are only repeating unsubstantiated rumors.
>
> Deaf dogs are extremely attentive and therefore easier to train than hearing dogs. Teaching dogs hand signals is routine for dog trainers; I do not understand why it becomes an unacceptable form of communication when speaking about deaf dogs. I, and the many people I communicate with who own deaf dogs, just can't get over the amount of misinformation passed off as fact. Deaf dogs won't "startle" when woken any more than a hearing dog does if it has been woken pleasantly a few times in its

life. Also, I have never heard of a deaf Dal biting or attacking without provocation.

Enough of passing the buck. Breeders who produce a deaf puppy are obligated to find it a good home and never breed either of its parents again. Breeders are responsible for the problem and should be held accountable.

Christine Babiarz, B.S.W., of Bellvue, Colorado, also wrote to **Dog World**:

I am currently owned by two deaf Dalmatians. I also am an obedience instructor and animal behavior specialist. I have been able to work with a broad variety of dogs in my career, including those that were blind, deaf, blind and deaf, or had limited mobility, but even with my background, I found having a disabled pet presented a huge challenge.

My experience has led me to write a book on living with and training disabled dogs, and it will include congenital ailments as well as those acquired later in life from aging, illness, surgery, or accident. If you or someone you know has a disabled dog, and if you are willing to take a survey or be interviewed during the research and production of this book, please [contact] me. I am interested in all types of disabilities as well as both the positive and negative aspects of your experience.

We asked Hannon and Babiarz what sort of response they'd gotten. Hannon tells us:

I received many letters from other deaf dog owners who were happy to see that others don't believe the myth that deaf dogs are dangerous and are willing to support their views. I didn't receive any negative responses and in the time since the letter was published the DCA has begun to take steps to find the cause for deafness in Dals, which may only be a knee-jerk reaction to the public's increasingly voluble unhappiness with the DCA's stance on destroying all deaf dogs.

The Internet has a large community of deaf dog owners with Websites and a *Deaf Dog Digest*, which is maintained by Lindsay Patten and has a current membership of over 500 people, last I heard, with over 1,200 former subscribers to this question-and-answer format digest. Lindsay is responsible for starting the groundswell of support, which has resulted in a Deaf Dog Rescue Group, Education Foundation, books, and, most recently, articles in **Dog Fancy** and **Dog World** this Spring. Holly Newstad [runs] another Website, Deaf Dog Education Action Fund (DDeaf).

Bravo to you for featuring this issue again in your publication!

And Babiarz says:

That letter to the editor in **Dog World** was published over one year ago. I also sent a similar request to **Dog Fancy** but they didn't publish it. I will be sending another one.

The response I got was fantastic. I received information from people all over the US and Canada who had dogs with varying disabilities. The most common disability I received input on was deaf dogs. I received touching letters, photos, etc. and most people said that they wouldn't trade their deaf dog for all the world. Many people indicated a bumpy road in the beginning but that it was worth it.

I know my own two are some of the brightest lights in my life. Such loving, giving, trusting friends I could never find anywhere else!

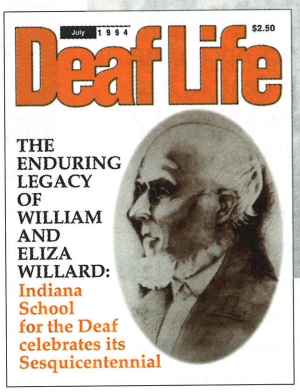
Susan Cope Becker (DDeaf's publicist) recently published a handbook on the subject, **Living with a Deaf Dog**, which includes useful information gleaned from "hundreds of people" through the Internet, and from her own experience as owner of a deaf Boston Terrier. Her book covers BAER testing, training, safety, signs, and resources, and includes the stories of nine cherished deaf dogs, as told by their owners, with photos. Three of the dogs profiled in this section are Dalmatians—one in Pennsylvania, one in England, and one in Australia. The others represent an international variety of pure and mixed breeds. Some owners may not have had previous connections with the Deaf community, but some do, and several are deaf themselves or have deaf children. All of them have a positive attitude towards their deaf companions, and love them just as they are.

JULY 1994:
ISD'S SESQUICENTENNIAL

The Indiana School for the Deaf celebrated its Sesquicentennial in 1994. Exciting things are happening with ISD's future and its past. Jim Frenchik updated us on several new programs:

ISD is involved in distance learning, which means instruction via satellite link-up. Wendy Whiting of Vincennes University's ASL Program has been contracted for this year to teach ASL to about 9 hearing students at two public schools in the Indianapolis area: Hamilton Southeastern High and Plainfield High. The program has been so successful that Plainfield has requested an ASL II class for next year, and they have registered around 50 students for ASL I. Several other schools, from elementary through high school, have contacted us regarding the ASL classes.

Taking in the exhibit.
(INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY)



Plainfield Middle School has also invited our middle-school teachers Tim Burdsall and Carol Keller to join Plainfield and two other schools next year for a project on diversity. Plainfield is a somewhat rural (really suburban) school district to our west. Guion Creek Middle School of Indianapolis's Pike Township will be involved as a representative of "inner city" schools, while Easter Hancock is providing the *really* rural perspective. The students will study the same materials regarding diversity and discuss them on the Internet without disclosing their identities. One concession that the hearing schools are using is that they will watch one of the videotapes that we will be studying without sound, relying on the closed-captioning, to experience what captioning is all about.

Our science department is also impressive. Teacher Teresa Huckleberry earned a pilot's license and currently holds an instructor's license. She had a program last summer for 4 weeks in which students studied avionics, including parts of a plane, navigation, etc. They went on four flights during the course of the program: to Wisconsin to see a large air show, to Washington, D.C. to visit the Smithsonian, and to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base Aviation Museum in Dayton, Ohio. On the fourth flight to Terre Haute in small planes, the students had to calculate the direction to turn the plane during landing to counteract the wind speed so that they could land straight.

Huckleberry has also accompanied our students to Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama, and has taken them to several launches of the space shuttle. This year she has been asked to get herself and a handful of students scuba-certified so that they can go to the Scott Carpenter Station, an underwater mock-up of the shuttle's science bay. They will go there during a shuttle mission and perform the same experiments as the astronauts are doing on the shuttle, and they will be in contact with the astronauts to compare results.

Michael Reis gave us a detailed account of a statewide project:

Growing Up Deaf in Indiana, a traveling exhibit sponsored by the Indiana Historical Society (IHS) and developed in collaboration with ISD and the ISD Alumni Association (ISDAA), celebrates 150 years of Indiana's remarkable Deaf community, with a focus on ISD. The interactive exhibition includes

photographs, manuscripts, videos, interviews with ISD alumni, and other materials. Of note: several letters exchanged by a mother and her deaf son before the Civil War, and unique sign-language pictures, vintage 1901. Most of the exhibit material came from ISD's sesquicentennial yearbook.

Each year, IHS sponsors 10 to 12 traveling exhibits on various aspects of Indiana history—e.g., automobiles, authors and poets, African-American churches and businesses, life at home during World War II. These are sent to libraries, museums, and public schools all over Indiana, staying 4 to 5 weeks in each location. ***Growing Up Deaf in Indiana*** was the first IHS exhibit focusing on a state institution or a group of disabled people.

ISD celebrated its sesquicentennial in June 1994. ISDAA sponsored a special alumni reunion that drew over 1,000 attendees from 27 states. After this record-breaking reunion, ISDAA decided to publish a sesquicentennial yearbook.

A yearbook committee was formed with Michael Reis as chairman, Jerry Cooper as editor, Leona Norrod as research coordinator, Teresa Schmidt as photography coordinator, and Steven Stultz as treasurer. The Jostens publishing firm was chosen to print the yearbook. Many photographs from the ISD archives were used, and the Gallaudet University Archives provided some from its own collection. The Indiana State Museum provided reproductions of old newspaper photographs. IHS provided old state maps and additional photographs. Still others were provided by various churches and community-service agencies in Evansville, Merrillville, and Fort Wayne, so it was really a statewide project. ISD's magazine, **The Hoosier**, which began publication in 1877, provided a wealth of anecdotes and historical notes: the old post office named Gallaudet, Indiana; an 1856 sign-language dictionary; the old burying grounds for deaf "orphans" at the old school; a long-forgotten deaf school in Evansville; ISD's World War I correspondence course; deaf World War II soldiers—and many more.

The IHS staff willingly provided assistance to the yearbook committee. As time went by, the IHS staff became more interested in the yearbook project because they hadn't realized what a rich history a small group of disabled people had, nor that a state institution in Indianapolis could have so much impact on so many communities across the state. In Summer 1996, Faith Revell, Director of Exhibitions at IHS, contacted the ISDAA about mounting a traveling museum exhibit on deaf people in Indiana. The yearbook had not yet been published, but the ISDAA shared printer's proofs with Revell's staff. It took 9 months for the yearbook committee and her staff to prepare a design.

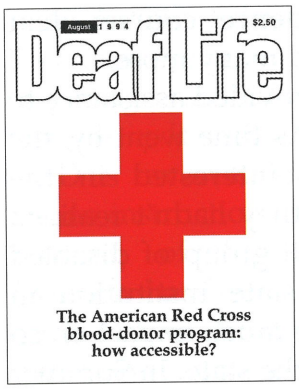
ISD's sesquicentennial yearbook was published in May 1997. ***Growing Up Deaf in Indiana*** opened to the public in the rotunda of the Indiana Statehouse on September 22, during Deaf Heritage Week, then moved to the IHS first-floor gallery in downtown Indianapolis from September 29 to January 16.

At the request of the yearbook committee, IHS agreed to send ***Growing Up Deaf in Indiana*** to Gallaudet University for 5 weeks (February 23-March 31, 1998), as a way of showing appreciation to the Gallaudet Archives for its assistance. The exhibit was on view at the Gallaudet Library during its DPN-10 festivities, where it was seen and enjoyed by many students, professors, and visitors. According to Jack R. Gannon, author of **Deaf Heritage**, it provided extra impetus for the planned American deaf-community exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution.

Growing Up Deaf returned to Indiana in April, and visited the small-town libraries of Kokomo and Crawfordsville. It's being displayed at the Indiana State Fair in Indianapolis (August 12-23), where more than 600,000 visitors are expected. It will then tour the state until 2002.

AUGUST 1994:

AMERICAN RED CROSS & DEAF BLOOD DONORS

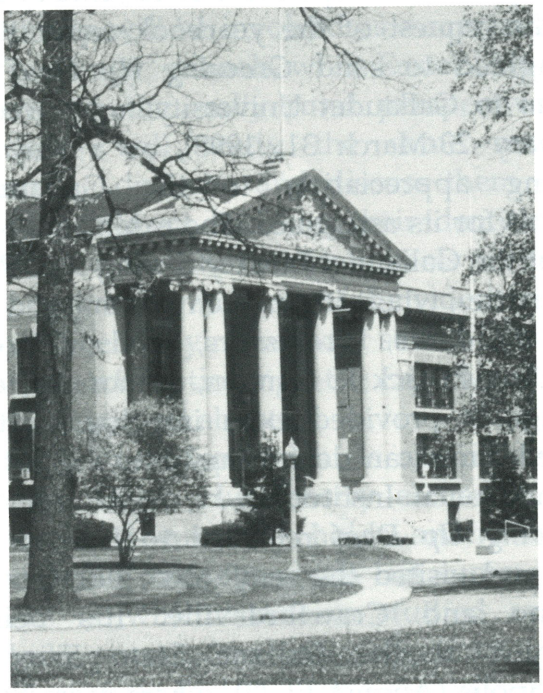


Donald and Theresa Grushkin now live in Fremont, California. Here's an update:

Theresa and I do still give blood here in Fremont. Like our experience in Tucson, we initially had some problems with people in the San Jose chapter, insisting that I need to respond to the questions verbally or lipread their questions. The first time I went there in San Jose, I was there over 2 hours, because they were trying to figure out what to do. But they finally let me in and read the questions as the nurse asked them, and reply by shaking my head yes or no to what they asked. We also wrote back and forth as needed. Since the first time, it has been better. We do still inform them that I am Deaf, but there is no hassle about my giving blood. So, I would say that the situation improves for Deaf donors, but only *after* you make the Red Cross in your area *aware* of the fact that Deaf people can be donors, and that reasonable accommodations can be made. We need to have more Deaf people giving blood in all areas, so that all the Red Cross chapters can be aware and give Deaf people less hassle about giving blood. It may be a problem the first time, but once they know who you are, there is usually not much of a problem.

The Red Cross does seem to be improving in its attitude towards Deaf people. They recently certified me as the second Deaf person to teach CPR/First Aid in the Bay area (I don't know if there are any other Deafies). The only problem: they were not very willing to provide an interpreter for the classes—I had to bring my own (wife and friends who were willing to interpret for an evening). If more Deaf people get involved, maybe together we can get them to change their policies.

The Indiana School for the Deaf



The Indiana School for the Deaf community promotes academic and social excellence for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students through a Bilingual/Bicultural environment.

For information about the Indiana School for the Deaf and its programs, please contact any member of our Administrative Team:

George Stailey, Superintendent	317.924.8400 (V/TTY)
David McKenna, Asst. Supt.	317.924.8401 (V/TTY)
Linda Lloyd, Principal (Interim)	317.924.8402 (TTY)
Debra Fetzer, Dean of Students	317.924.8403 (TTY)
Judy Cass, Director of Outreach	317.920.6311 (V/TTY)

1200 East 42nd Street, Indianapolis, IN 46205-2099

SEPTEMBER 1994: "THE MADNESS OF INCLUSION"

Stella Sanfratello writes:

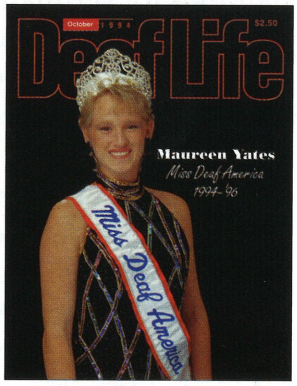
Since I wrote "Deaf Students in the Mainstream: A School Counselor's Journal" (under the pseudonym "Carrie Davis Starr"), a lot has happened here in Colorado.

When we saw the tidal wave of educational "full inclusion" coming, we decided to confront it straight-on: through the unified efforts of the Deaf Community, students, teachers, and parents, we successfully pushed a Deaf Child's Bill of Rights (sponsored by Representative Moe Keller) through the legislature in only 5 weeks!

Since the DCBR became law in 1996, our district has approved the Magnet School of the Deaf and Rep. Keller has also successfully sponsored the Interpreter Standards Bill, establishing minimum standards for school interpreters statewide. Although the Colorado Department of Education has been diligent in its efforts to implement our DCBR, it will take some time for the new "rules" to funnel down through the system and to actually be enforced in the IEP process for each child with deafness/hearing loss. All of us who are committed to implementing the DCBR, as well as the updated and revised Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), will be closely monitoring the implementation of these laws. As the largest district in Colorado, Jefferson County Schools is still a "leader" in the area of returning students to general-education classrooms in their neighborhood schools.

I served on the DCBR "rules" and Interpreter Standards committees, and was the 1997 commencement speaker at the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind. I also received the "Golden Hands Award" from the Colorado Association of the Deaf. This year, I became the first Deaf person appointed to serve on the Colorado Special Education Advisory Committee.

OCTOBER 1994: MAUREEN YATES MISS DEAF AMERICA, 1994-1995



I graduated from Gallaudet University on May 15th, and received my BA in Elementary Education. :-) This Fall, I will be working as a Graduate Assistant for Campus Life—I am truly looking forward to that. My goal is to get a MA in Deaf Education. After I get my MA degree, I will be able to find a job—anywhere out of the East!—hopefully in the West.

I know that many people are still wondering why I resigned as Miss Deaf America. It's because I felt strongly that education comes first before anything else. I was supporting myself through college—I had *three* jobs at that time. I had to try and manage school, my three jobs, *and* my responsibility as Miss Deaf America—it was exhausting. I finally reached a point where I realized that I had to make choices—that I couldn't have it all. I also didn't have a chaperone or a sponsor so I had to handle all of the phone calls and make all arrangements for my travels.

I had all the support [I needed] from my family and my childhood friend, Jennifer Yost [Miss Deaf Virginia and first runner-up]. She was also ready and eager to take my place as Miss Deaf America. Many people [still] ask me whether I regret my decision. Well, there is a point in your life where you face hard times, challenges, major decision-making. During that point in your life, you become a stronger person. My answer is no. I don't have any regrets.

NOVEMBER 1994: FATHER THOMAS COUGHLIN

Father Tom Coughlin (back row, center) and Father George Schommer, OP (in white cassock) with people who are interested in becoming priests and nuns. These include Janet Beckley, Margaret Shea, Matthew Hysell, Mark Marcellino, Roland Yeo, OFM, Joseph Holst, and Bruce Winallis.

In 1994, after making my first religious vows with the Dominican Order known as the Order of Preachers, the fourth-largest religious order in the Roman Catholic Church, I faced a difficult decision of whether to stay in a hearing community of friars who did not speak my primary language, the sign language. After a few months' experimentation of living in a hearing religious community in St. Louis, I realized that to thrive as a healthy and balanced person, I needed to live in a deaf community where I could use sign language and enjoy and share my culture. I finally asked for a dispensation of my religious vows, much to my sorrow as well as theirs. I withdrew from the Dominican community and moved to the New York City area in 1995.

I appealed to Cardinal John O'Connor, asking for his assistance in opening the doors for deaf men and women to serve God as priests and sisters without having to live in a hearing religious community. Cardinal O'Connor agreed with my proposal to set up a special religious-vocation program for deaf candidates. He authorized me to purchase a large residence in the metro New York City are where they could live, socialize, and pray in their own deaf-cultural milieu. There is no need to mainstream deaf candidates in a hearing seminary where sign language is rarely spoken. However, deaf candidates will go to nearby St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, New York to study theology as required for ordination to the priesthood. In fact, Cardinal O'Connor has set up an endowment of $250,000 at the seminary to cover deaf seminarians' tuition expenses. I will need to raise approximately $10,000 a year to cover interpreters' fees at the seminary to assist deaf seminarians in the classrooms over a period of 4 years of theology studies.

In 1997, I purchased a 9-bedroom residence in Yonkers. Presently, there are two deaf candidates studying for the priesthood: Mark Marcellino of Philadelphia and Rowland Yeo, OFM, of Singapore. Two more deaf candidates will enter in the Fall of 1999 to begin their studies also.

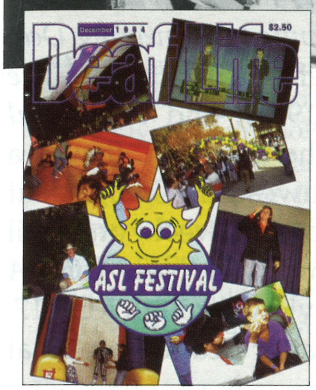
In January 1998, a group of six deaf men and two women attended our annual Religious Vocation Retreat in Yonkers. A few days were spent in discussing and discerning one's religious calling. It is with hopes that some of them will eventually join the community to study for the priesthood or religious life.

At this moment, a petition is being made to a large religious order to request permission for us to be established as a religious order for deaf ministry. If approved, we will become a religious order of priests, brothers, and nuns for the deaf. Our focus will be on preaching God's Word to the deaf community in the Catholic Church.

I am no longer directing Camp Mark Seven as an executive director. I have handed over my reins to a very competent deaf administrator, Lisa Flynn of Boston. I work as a chaplain at the camp. The camp is running very well and we have so many exciting programs: ASL Week, Deaf Wilderness/Canoe week, Kids of Deaf Adults (KODA) week and the popular Deaf Eldercamp week. Everyone is most welcome to visit Camp Mark Seven in Old Forge, New York.

DECEMBER 1994: ASL FESTIVAL/DEAF EXPO

(EFTC)



The first *ASL Festival: Deaf Culture Convergence* was held at the Glendale Armory in Glendale, California, on Saturday, July 17, 1993. It was sponsored by PYRAMerica Enterprise, a small, relatively new Deaf-owned company. Eye Festival Communications coordinated publicity and held a press conference.

The second *ASL Festival*—the subject of our cover story—was held at the Fairplex in Pomona in November 1994, and was co-sponsored by PYRAM and EF Training Center, Inc. The "Deaf Expo" was the exhibition-hall part of the Festival.

Starting with the 1995 show, the name of the festival was changed to *Deaf Expo*. EFTC has been the sole coordinator since 1995. *Deaf Expo* is held annually in early or mid-November in Southern California. *Deaf Expo '96* was held at the Anaheim Convention Center; *Deaf Expo '97* at Pomona's Fairplex.

Therese Shellabarger, EFTC's Director of Communications, says, "Since 1994, more than 35,000 people have attended *Deaf Expo* from over 25 states and several countries."

Several other states have established popular annual Deaf Culture festivals. One of the biggest, Kentucky's DeaFestival 98, sponsored by the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, will be held in Louisville on September 6.

JANUARY 1995: BURMA YOUNG HOLDER

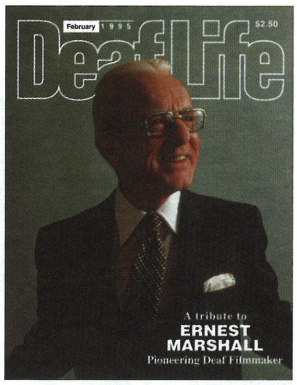
Burma Young Holder, the high-spirited woman who had been the nation's youngest exhibition skater just before World War I, died on June 12, 1998, at the Fountain View Nursing Facility in Los Angeles, after undergoing treatment for cancer of the spine. She was 92.

We received the sad news from our reader Joe DiVita, a close friend of Burma's. "I can't believe that Burma [is] 'whirl-wind gone,'" he wrote. "We enjoyed our motor trip to Palm Springs [in] early [May], and had a nice time with Mr. and Mrs. Larry Levy. She didn't complain anything about her cancer, but she finally sensed her pain and took the 'chemo' treatment at Good Samaritan Hospital. I visited her twice at [the] nursing home. She neglected all daily meals; she just wanted to [go to] sleep after [having] had such a long, healthy, and enjoyable life. I was told that her ashes [were] sent to Electra, Texas, to be [placed with] her second husband [William Don Holder, who died in 1978], to be done by her sister-in-law."

Burma Holder had written us a charming letter on April 6, in which she expressed her "happy and hearty congratulations" to **Deaf Life** on its 10th anniversary. She looked forward to seeing our 10th Anniversary issue, and described her participation in a "Deaf Women's History" video-interview project conducted by Carolyn and Evelyn Preston of CSUN. She remained cheerful, active, and in good health almost to the end of her long life. We'll miss her.

We will also miss Alex Ekman, who interviewed Burma for our cover story. He died of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis ("Lou Gehrig's disease") on July 4, 1997, at Walnut Manor Care Center in Anaheim. His wife, Miriam, has Alzheimer's disease and is spending her final days there.

FEBRUARY 1995: ERNEST MARSHALL



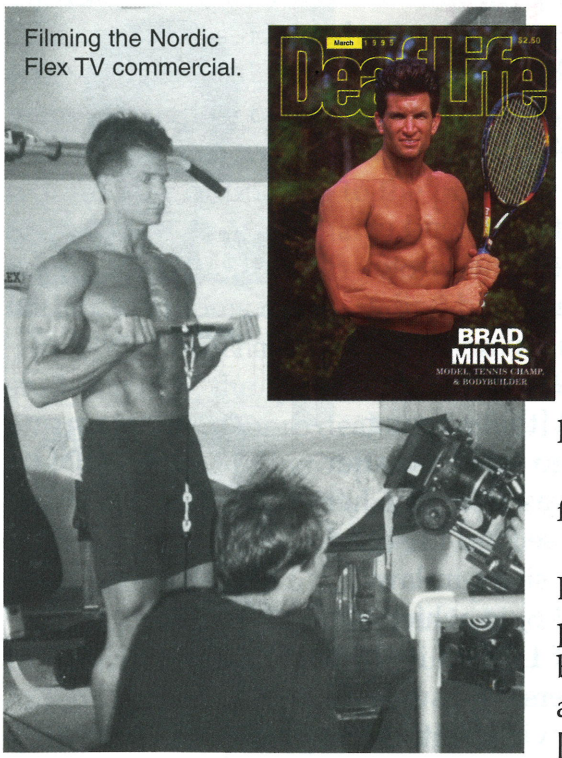
Although Ernest Marshall stopped making movies in 1963, the film community is finally starting to catch up with him. His films have been rediscovered by a new generation of deaf audiences who find them not only historically and culturally significant, but entertaining too.

Since the cover story on Marshall appeared, he has participated in several retrospectives and civic/cultural events.

On September 27, 1995, Marshall participated in the Deaf Awareness Week Celebration at Lexington School for the Deaf. On October 6, he gave a presentation at a meeting of the New York City Civic Association of the Deaf, at Merrill Lynch's corporate headquarters. *A Deaf Film Festival & A Tribute to Pioneering Deaf Filmmaker Ernest Marshall* was held on January 27, 1996, at NYU. Five of Marshall's best films—***The Debt*** (1959), ***A Cake of Soap*** (1960), ***The Dream*** (1961), ***The Neighbor*** (1961), and ***Sorrowful Approach*** (1962), were shown, and Marshall gave a talk that concluded the program. It was a definite hit. On April 12, 1996, Marshall was a special attraction at Northwestern Connecticut Community-Technical College's Annual Spring Gala on Deafness. The following week, on April 19, he gave a presentation at the Community Arts Room, Nanuet Mall, Stony Point, New York. ***A Cake of Soap*** and ***The Neighbor*** were shown. A documentary exhibit was on view through May 17.

A Cake of Soap, Marshall's hilarious 9-minute film, was screened at the Walter Reade Theater at Lincoln Center on January 27, 1998.

One of his favorite memories is his storytelling performance at The DEAF WAY. He still enjoys putting in an occasional turn as a storyteller.



MARCH 1995: BRAD MINNS

1997 was a very good year for me. Since the **Deaf Life** article appeared, I have continued to pursue my goals as a model, spokesperson, tennis professional, and fitness trainer. As a model, my biggest achievement was being chosen a cover model for Nordic Flex. I visited Nike headquarters and met Phil Knight, the owner. Since then, I have been pursuing opportunities as a Nike representative. In the meantime I continue searching for other possibilities to demonstrate my modeling abilities here in Orlando and abroad.

I am in my final year as an EAS/PAS spokesperson. I was featured in the February [1998] issue of **Muscle Media**.

In tennis, I participated in the '97 World Games for the Deaf in Copenhagen and was very happy with our team's performance. I won a gold in doubles, silver in singles, and bronze in mixed. Will be planning on the next Games and also hope to compete in the Dresse Cup next year. I was [also] awarded the United States Professional Tennis Registry Player of the Year. [It's] the largest tennis-teaching organization in the world.

I work daily, teaching tennis to children and adults of all levels at Sanlando Park [in Altamonte Springs], one of the top tennis parks in the country. We recently held the national qualifier for juniors and had 450 entrants. Am working on also becoming certified by another teaching organization, USPTA, and am going to continue teaching tennis.

APRIL 1995: SIGN LANGUAGE & THE BRAIN

Ursula Bellugi, Professor and Director of the Laboratory for Cognitive Neuroscience, and her team of deaf and hearing researchers, continue their pioneering studies of cognition, including the neurobiology of sign language, at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in La Jolla, California.

New, noninvasive, and safe ways of imaging the activity of the brain while processing different kinds of information (signing, imagery, and motion) include event related potentials (ERP), Positron-emission tomography (PET), and functional magnetic resonance imagery (fMRI).

As their 1997 Annual Report put it:

> American Sign Language (ASL) has all the complex linguistic structure found in spoken languages, but unlike spoken languages conveys many linguistic distinctions through elaborate spatial contrasts. We explore the underlying neurobiology of signed as opposed to spoken language by studying deaf signers with unilateral brain lesions. Thus far, our research shows that the left hemisphere is primarily responsible for processing sign language, despite its strong reliance on visual-spatial contrasts. In addition, using recent dramatic improvements in brain imaging that allow 3-D *in vivo* visualization (BrainVox) and imaging activity of the living brain (fMRI), we are mapping the neural systems underlying signed and spoken language in intact brains. Our studies bear directly on issues of the plasticity of the brain and the effects of linguistic experience on brain organization.

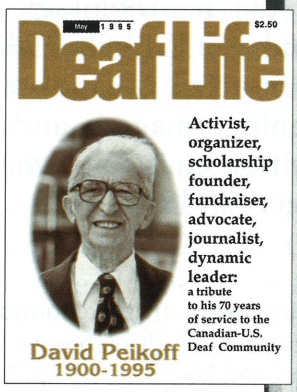
Dr. Bellugi tells us: "We find enhancement of spatial cognition in deaf signers for processing motion, faces, and imagery. That's quite exciting and should be relevant to your readers!!" Steve McCullough, Deaf researcher at Salk, explains:

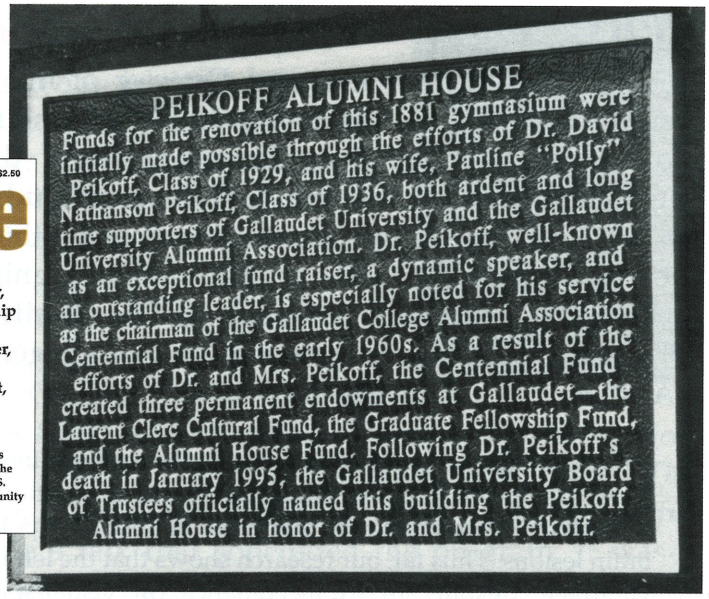
> Motion-processing studies have shown that signers have a heightened sensitivity to certain perceptual qualities of nonlinguistic motion. Deaf signers are better at analyzing motion: e.g., distinguishing between transitional and purposeful motion, compared to nonsigners. Signers also exhibit a left-hemisphere dominance for detecting motion in the periphery of vision, whereas nonsigners show a right hemisphere advantage, suggesting that the acquisition of a sign language can even alter the brain areas responsible for motion perception.
>
> ASL signers also exhibit an enhanced ability to discriminate among unfamiliar faces, and also to recognize subtle changes in specific facial features. These are skills that may be strongly tied to recognizing and interpreting ASL linguistic facial expressions. Signers and nonsigners do not differ in their ability to recognize individual faces from memory or in their *gestalt* face-processing abilities. To identify and categorize ASL facial expressions, signers do not need to recognize the person, or the *gestalt* aspects of the face (e.g. the shape of the face) because they remain unaffected by variations in linguistic facial expressions. Sign-language use appears to enhance only those face-processing skills that must be generalized across unique individuals and that are relevant to interpreting subtle differences in local feature configurations.
>
> Finally ASL signers in our mental-imagery studies exhibit a superior ability to generate and transform mental images. Signers have faster reaction times for tasks that involve mental rotation: for example, deciding whether two objects are the same or are mirror images of each other, regardless of orientation. Signers are also faster on tasks which require them to generate an image (e.g., of a letter). Image generation may occur frequently during ASL discourse; e.g., classifier verbs of motion and location often require relatively precise representation of visual-spatial relations, and this explicit encoding may require the generation of visual mental images. The habitual use of these imagery skills during language processing appear to facilitate mental imagery within nonlinguistic domains.

A sidenote: In early May 1998, we received an E-mail from Bonita Ewan of North Dakota, who is shown on our cover in Max Aguilera-Hellweg's striking multiple-image photograph. She had just learned about **Deaf Life's** reprint of the August 1994 **Discover** cover story, and asked if she could obtain a copy of this issue so she could frame the cover. She was obviously proud of her participation in the project.

MAY 1995: DAVID PEIKOFF

Dr. Clifton F. Carbin's stirring tribute to David Peikoff got an enthusiastic response from readers.





Dr. Carbin's monumental **Deaf Heritage in Canada**, published in 1996, contains numerous references to Dr. Peikoff, and his portrait is included on the bookjacket.

Polly Peikoff tells us that the Manitoba School for the Deaf established an annual essay contest for students. The topic is "Who is David Peikoff?" The best response receives an award, and the winner is announced on Peikoff's birthday (March 21). "In this way, David's name will not be forgotten."

At Gallaudet University, a commemorative plaque at the entrance to Ole Jim, now the Peikoff Alumni House (see photo), explains the significance of the name and the importance of David and Polly Peikoff to the Gallaudet community. Appropriately, the initials are PAH—and *"Pah!"* is a popular ASL expression for "Victory!", "We did it!", or "At last, we've reached our goal!"

JUNE 1995: BENITA VENEGAS

*Helen Young (called "Ellen White" in Paul Rubin's original story in the Phoenix **New Times**) provided an update.*

Benita is now 19 years old and Ralfy is 5. Benita found a boyfriend, left school, moved in with her father for a time, then eventually moved to Northern California to be with her abusive mother [Amelia Fernandez] and sisters. Amelia still beats them, drinks, and uses drugs.

She finally had what every young girl wants—a home, nice clothes, loving parents, friends, a place to have parties, counseling . . . but after 2 years, she couldn't maintain it any longer. Seems she just couldn't overcome the feeling that she didn't deserve good things. According to her, we were too rich, had too many rules, cared too much, and she didn't deserve our love. She chose to go back into an abusive situation.

We took her to counselors, psychologists, psychiatrists, everyone we could find. She was definitely manic-depressive, [with] post-traumatic stress disorder, along with other things.

Ralfy has ADHD (attention-deficit-hyperactivity disorder) and takes medication so he can maintain calmness while attending kindergarten. He lived with us till a year ago. We were feeling overwhelmed, being 50 and having a little one, so we heard about a foster family that wanted another small child to adopt. The family sounded *too* good to be true. Christian family. She is a certified special-ed teacher. Eight children—three are biological, one is deaf. Proficient signers. She is half-Hispanic, so Ralfy will have the cultural reinforcement. They allow us visits whenever we want. He spends weekends here, calls us when he needs to.

Benita realized there is no way she can take care of Ralfy, so she signed over her son to this family. Her rights have been severed.

She still comes to visit and we have a good relationship. When she needs to, she calls. She says she has a nice boyfriend now. He treats her well. Vocational Rehabilitation will send her to training.

She wants to marry and have five children.

There was a problem with Ralfy's biological father [Rafael Machuca]. He decided he wanted custody—and he is in prison for molesting Benita and getting her pregnant. Of course he didn't pass the home study when they inspected his cell; it wasn't a fit place for a 5-year-old to live! But now his rights have been severed and he is history. Thank God!

He and his brother [Javier] were both charged with 8 counts of molesting, which would have meant 125 years in prison.

Benita was so emotional, I knew she could not go through a trial, so I agreed to a plea agreement of 5 to 10 years—hoping for 10! There was a mediation hearing. Their attorneys pled their cases; one attorney even cried. They had a witness who said that having sex with young girls was accepted behavior in Mexico. These statements sent me into a rage. This is *not* acceptable behavior in the U.S. The police didn't want to arrest them because they were low-income Mexicans. The prosecutor didn't want to charge them until the media became involved! Benita was sobbing when she told of their abuse, sex starting at age 12, [their] trying to force her to drink and use cocaine. Neither of them would give her money to buy baby food or milk, so she shoplifted at K-mart stores. I became very emotional when I told them how many times Benita had woken up in the middle of the night in a cold sweat, sobbing about a nightmare she'd been having: living with her mom and these two guys coming in and out.

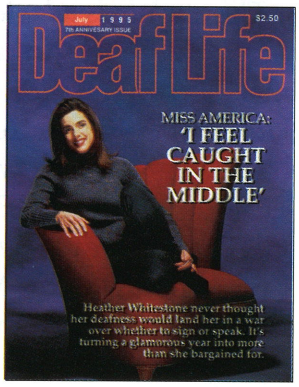
Well, the judge bought their story, so he reduced their sentences to 5 years. One of them had his 16-year-old girlfriend there to talk to the judge. She was pregnant with his child, so it seems our laws meant nothing to them.

Wish there was a "lived happily ever after" story, but all the money in the world can't buy back what Benita feels about herself.

She will always have a special place in our hearts and we miss her a lot. We keep her in our prayers and wish her the best and will always be here for her.

I'm glad you're doing a follow-up story. Child Protective Services calls me often to interpret for deaf children, and Benita's story is not unique.

JULY 1995: HEATHER WHITESTONE



When Heather Whitestone, Miss America 1995, crowned red-haired Shawntel Smith as her successor, she must have been eager to return to a semblance of a normal life.

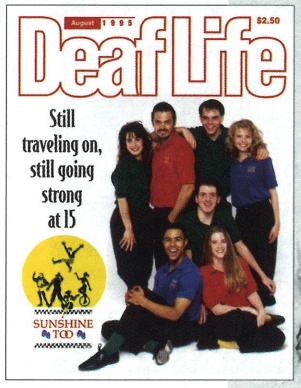
She's now living one of the busiest lives imaginable—as the wife of a campaigning politician.

After completing her high-profile term of service as Miss America, Whitestone continued a round of speaking engagements, traveling and giving talks to Christian groups. In 1997, she married John McCallum of Atlanta, a financial advisor who had worked as an aide to Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich. Their engagement was publicized in **People Weekly**. But they evidently married "quietly"—out of the glare of the media spotlight.

Zondervan, a leading publisher of Christian books, published Daphne Gray's **Yes, You Can, Heather** in 1996. Gray also wrote a biography for children (with Gregg Lewis) for Zondervan's "Heroes for Today" series. Doubleday published Whitestone's own "inspirational autobiography," **Listening with My Heart**, in 1997.

On July 7, Heather Whitestone McCallum faxed us a response: "I apologize for not responding to your fax as soon as possible. I have an extremely busy schedule. My husband is running for Secretary of State in Georgia and the primary election is on July 21st. You have contacted me during the busiest time. I have been on the road a lot." It sounds eerily similar to her adventures as Miss America.

AUGUST 1995: SUNSHINE TOO



Sunshine Too is still rolling! Some statistics: the troupe gave 185 performances and 58 workshops in 1995-96, 141 performances and 191 workshops in 1996-97, and 117 performances and 165 workshops in 1997-98—a total of 443 performances and 414 workshops. During the past 3 seasons, they've performed at an annual average of 14 schools for the deaf, 5 colleges, 14 civic groups, and 171 public schools.

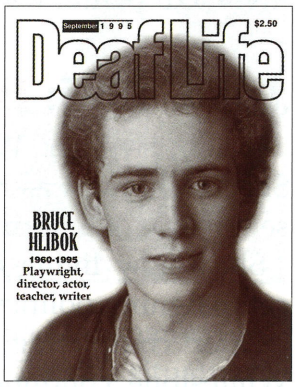
After the 1995-96 season ended, a major portion of funding was lost to budget cuts. So for the past two seasons, the company has limited its tours to the East Coast and Midwest—no tours abroad, and fewer performances and workshops than before.

1998-99 company: Cal Balogun, Don Clupper, and Teresa Thiry (Deaf members); James Gardner, Tricia Giffune, and Andrea Jordan (hearing members).

But the budget cuts, disappointing as they are, have provided a challenge. More funding is being obtained through government and foundation grants. Sunshine Too hopes to receive enough government funding for the coming three seasons to enable them to tour nationally again.

The mission continues: performances that are entertaining yet educational, and workshops promoting Deaf culture and Deaf pride while teaching all participants about the importance of communication.

SEPTEMBER 1995: BRUCE HLIBOK



This update is adapted from the one we received from Peggy and Al Hlibok.

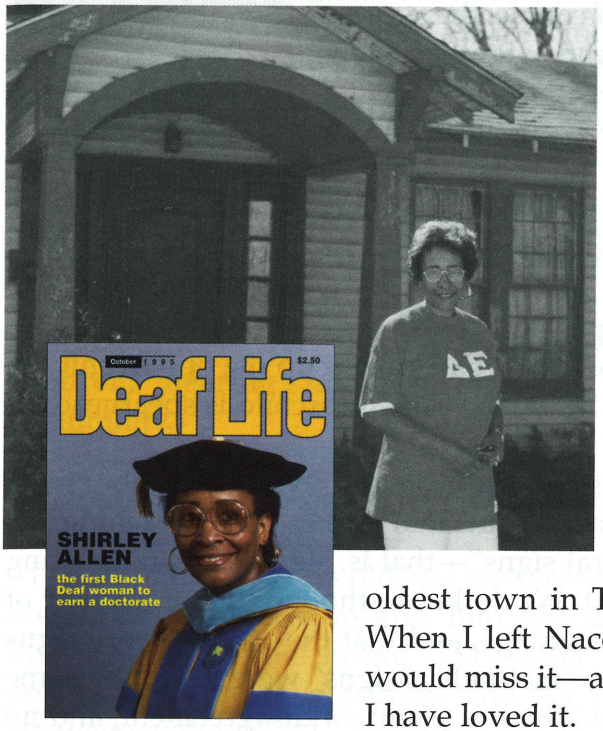
In Fall 1995, in accordance with Bruce Hlibok's request, his entire theatrical library of 400+ books and videotapes was donated to Gallaudet University's Theatre Arts Department. A colorful memorial bookplate, based on Bruce's own sketch, was affixed to each donated item. Bruce also designed his NAMES Project Memorial Quilt panel and chose the fabrics. His friend Pam Wright, a skilled seamstress, did the sewing. The panel was first displayed at Marble Collegiate Church during the September 30 memorial service, and was much admired for its beauty.

In 1996, the entire Hlibok family flew to Amsterdam, the city Bruce loved best, to participate in a memorial service, celebration of his life, and the scattering of his ashes. They established the Bruce Hlibok '84 Memorial Fund at Gallaudet. On May 5, 1998, its first scholarship was awarded to a student whose ambition was to become a screenwriter. A memorial plaque was added to the Theatre Arts Library to commemorate Bruce's donations.

In 1997, Bruce's quilt panel, now sewn to seven other panels, was displayed on the Mall in Washington, D.C., as part the NAMES Project Memorial Quilt. A commemorative brick donated by Joanne Ebersbach is now embedded in Atlanta's Olympic Plaza. On June 29, 1998, Bruce's remaining ashes were buried with his O'Gorman, Sherman, Mackintosh, and Newell ancestors in St. Paul's Cemetery, Oswego, New York.

Great Deaf Americans: The Second Edition (Deaf Life Press, 1996) includes a chapter on Bruce. A new play in his memory is being developed in Amsterdam. And Ann Marie "Jade" Bryan of Deafvision Filmworks, Inc., is working on a videotape about him.

OCTOBER 1995: DR. SHIRLEY J. ALLEN

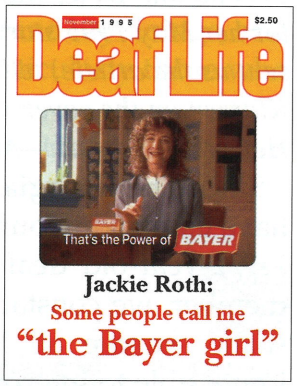


I lived in Nacogdoches while on sabbatical, returning to Rochester in August. My main reason for taking this leave was because several members of the family died during the past few years and I had a need to be near family and friends. God has truly blessed me in that I am over 50 years old and had grandparents until 1996. I am very grateful, but this gave me a "wake-up" call, letting me know that life does end at some point.

Nacogdoches is where I grew up and graduated from high school. It has changed quite a bit since I left in 1959. At the time, there were about 11,000 people living here and now the population is over 30,000. Although I never noticed while living here, it is one of the most beautiful towns I have ever seen. It is also the oldest town in Texas, so we experience the old and the modern here. When I left Nacogdoches 39 years ago, it never occurred to me that I would miss it—and I didn't. But this time, I will certainly miss this town. I have loved it.

I volunteered teaching basic sign language to family and friends in Nacogdoches and also in Lufkin (about 20 miles from here, where I attended elementary school). I also worked with deaf students at the local high school once a week in General Education. This has been a good year.

NOVEMBER 1995: JACKIE ROTH



I am still running my own consulting firm, JR & Company, providing training, marketing, and consulting services to profit and not-for-profit companies. I have consulted with corporations and businesses, provided training on communications and accessibility issues, developed and implemented marketing strategies, and chaired national conferences. I have advised hospitals on how to change policy and procedure to comply with legal requirements for accessibility for deaf and hard-of-hearing people. I have also trained hospital staff and worked as a consultant to attorneys and hospitals in litigation where access problems required solving.

I attended the Film Intensive Program at New York University and completed my studies in Spring 1997. I am now Coordinating Producer of a PBS documentary film, ***Sound and Fury***. It's about deaf people's search for identity and the choices they make or were made for them; it explores different communication styles and lifestyles. We are still in the production stage.

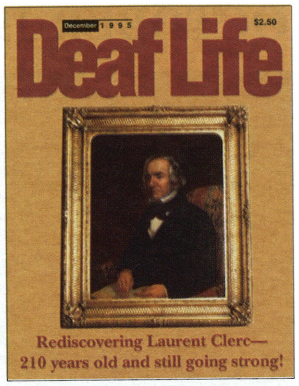
I recently completed a 6-week run at Deaf West Theatre in a two-character play called ***Brilliant Traces***, directed by Phyllis Frelich. It's about two lonely people whose lives intersect during a snow storm in Alaska. It is a drama with traces of humor.

[My Bayer Aspirin commercial] aired over a period of 7 months. As far as I know, it has not aired again. Yes, people do remember me from that commercial. However, I am sporting a new hairdo so I may not be that recognizable.

I am actively pursuing a career in the television and film industry as an actress and filmmaker.

And will be celebrating 7 years of marriage to a wonderful human being, Alan J. Rich. [See April 1996 update.]

DECEMBER 1995: LAURENT CLERC



The biggest recent event in the Laurent Clerc story is, of course, the success of the fundraising campaign to set up attractive and dignified new headstones at the Clercs' gravesites in Spring Grove Cemetery.

New twin granite headstones marking the graves of Laurent and Eliza Boardman Clerc were formally dedicated on April 17, 1998. Alan R. Barwiolek (Al B.) had spearheaded the campaign, which was cosponsored by the NAD and the American School for the Deaf. A delegation of seven Deaf French notables participated in the dedication.

A proposal to honor Clerc with a commemorative postage stamp was proposed at the recent NAD Conference in San Antonio. (USPS had passed up the opportunity to issue a stamp honoring Clerc in 1985, the bicentenary of his birth.) Ken Rothschild is spearheading the campaign. (See April 1993 update.)

Clerc remains the focus of reverence and controversy in our community. Opponents of the Bilingual-Bicultural approach, including Peggie Parsons, argue that Clerc, when teaching his students, used "methodical signs" as opposed to "natural signs"—that is, signing approximating the grammatical structure of spoken French (or English). We do know, though, that a number of Clerc's students already used a "native" form of sign language, and that they took Clerc's signs and altered them to their own needs and preferences. The "methodical signs" were so cumbersome that they were eventually modified or simply discarded. There is plenty of disagreement, and no truce in sight.

JANUARY 1996: TORN BETWEEN TWO WORLDS

Cecelia and Doug Klassen of Vancouver, B.C., were interviewed by Zsuzsi Gartner for her May 1995 story in ***The Georgia Straight****. Roger Carver of DCS (who kindly sent us the article) tells us that Gartner won a journalism award for it. That's Mari Klassen on the cover. Cecelia is President of the Family Network for Deaf Children. Her other children—Annie, 9, and Jake, 5—are hearing. Here's her update:*

Since **The Georgia Straight** article was written 3 years ago, so many things have changed in our lives. Mari has grown into a delightful, spunky, bright 7-1/2-year-old deaf girl. As a hearing family, with only one deaf family member, we constantly struggle with "balance." We see Mari's frustration while we are all laughing at a "knock knock" joke that is virtually impossible to interpret. At the same time we struggle with hearing children who don't understand what I just signed. Life can be overwhelming. We continue to plug away at ASL courses, socialize with deaf adults, and try our very best to make our family balance deaf and hearing together.

Our one huge sadness is the lack of information that deaf children get. Our hearing children find out all kinds of tidbits from the radio, TV, neighbours, and relatives. Mari's information only comes from people who sign to her. I can see in her eyes how frustrating and limiting that can be.

The school system here has made huge changes (of course, nothing is perfect), but they have recognized ASL as the language of instruction. Deaf Studies has been added to the curriculum, and there's a general feeling of "deaf pride" around the school. We have fought this year to have Mari in a Combined Classroom with 14 hearing children and 5 deaf children, a teacher of the deaf, a teacher for the hearing children, and an interpreter. Given the small number of students in any age group, we feel this is the best possible scenario.

The Family Network for Deaf Children that we formed 3 years ago has exploded with

enthusiasm and interest. We have 200 members all over British Columbia. We have been busy organizing a one-week free ASL immersion course at Douglas College here. 125 people are attending from all over the Province. We have been sponsoring open-captioned and interpreted movies at the theatre. We have organized two workshops for parents and professionals, one on ASL grammar, and the other on reading. We like to think our organization is the bridge between deaf children, hearing families, and the deaf community.

Kathy Caldicott, also quoted in Gartner's article, also provided an update:

Patrick is now 9 years old and we have never doubted our decision to give him ASL as his first language. His strong ASL skills have provided him with a natural and accessible language with which to discover his world and to communicate with important people in his life. Patrick is faced with many challenges, however, ASL is enabling him to learn, discover his deaf identity and find acceptance in a peer group. As he grows, we expect that ASL will be the vehicle through which he will find pride in his culture—Deaf culture.

Patrick helps us to see the world from a visual perspective and, as hearing parents, we are always striving to improve our ASL skills. We realize how important it is for the Deaf community to be our son's teacher and role model in this area. However, as he grows we will remain an important part of his life because we will be able converse with him about things that are important to him.

We realize that ASL is not the answer to all the difficulties our son will encounter due to his deafness. However, it allowed him to communicate at an early age and is providing a basis for him to learn English. I hate to think where he would be now without it!

FEBRUARY 1996: MARTIN L.A. STERNBERG

About two years ago, **Deaf Life** published a story about my checkered career and my doings, and apparently the editor now feels I should be sharing more with my readers, particularly those who have been entertained by my first story. Hence this attempt at a follow-up.

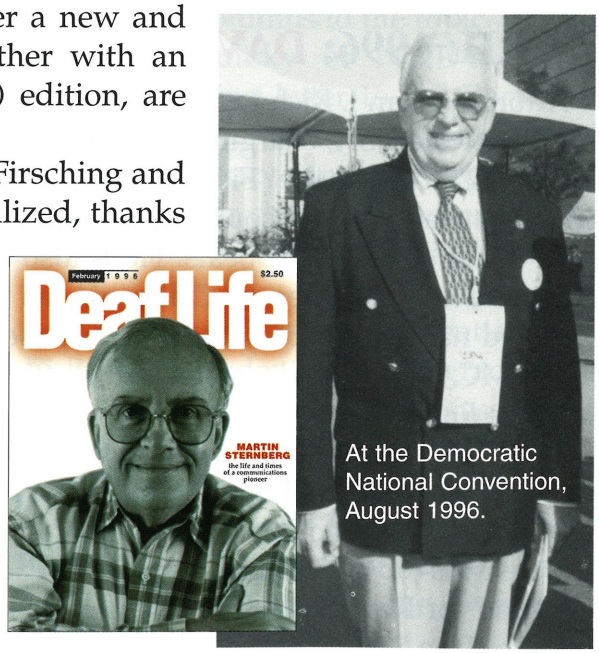
My lipreading prowess, for which I was once well-known, continues to decline, thanks to age and shortened attention span. I just do the best I can, smile, and keep a sense of humor.

My CD-ROM, Version 2, continues doing well, and I'm always surprised how many people have it. My books, too, are doing nicely, and by midsummer a new and greatly enlarged Unabridged hardcover edition, together with an equally new and almost as large Flexibind (softcover) edition, are making their debuts.

The Gray Lady, a 1961 Jaguar sedan co-owned by Joe Firsching and me, still shines in the garage, but right now it's immobilized, thanks to a pair of dead batteries. I said a pair. The car uses two 6-volt batteries, wired in series, to provide the necessary 12-volt power. The batteries are all but unobtainable, and I have an order in for a pair of these items. We have already missed one Jaguar show, and will surely miss another one soon, before the problem of power is rectified. That car is never happy unless its owner is climbing the walls.

What does the future hold?

Bend with the breeze,/Swim with the tide,
New surprises?/They'll surely abide.



At the Democratic National Convention, August 1996.

MARCH 1996:
ABUSED DEAF WOMEN'S ADVOCACY SERVICES

Until recently, Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services was a one-of-a-kind program operating in Seattle. ADWAS is serving as a model for similar programs being set up in 5 other cities: Austin, Boston, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Rochester (New York), and San Francisco/Bay Area. This is taken from Executive Director Marilyn J. Smith's report in the Summer 1998 issue of ADWAS's newsletter.

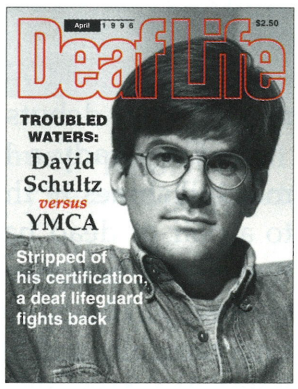
Twelve years after its founding, ADWAS has gone national and is providing five selected cities across America with training and consultation on the ADWAS model. In 1996, I began the first of many trips to Washington, D.C. to discuss funding for this project with the Office of Victims of Crime in the U.S. Department of Justice. A concept paper was presented to them in January 1997. Funding was granted later that fall with a project starting date of January 1998.

The "Justice For Deaf Victims" project fulfills a long-time dream of the ADWAS board and staff. Since 1986, ADWAS has been the only agency in the country that exclusively serves Deaf and Deaf-Blind victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. The first five cities were selected on the following criteria: readiness, able pool of volunteers, and willingness to adhere to the ADWAS philosophy. We believe that the best way to serve Deaf victims is through agencies where Deaf people truly have power and control and where the environment is culturally and linguistically Deaf in every sense of the word.

During the week of March 22, [nearly two dozen] Deaf women convened in Seattle for an intensive week-long training in sexual assault, domestic violence, setting up a 24-hour crisis line, recruiting and training volunteers, oppression and diversity, and community organizing. Follow-up training includes having two of the ADWAS staff visit each city for a week in the autumn. The long-term goal is to have each city running a program similar to that of ADWAS within the next year or two.

It is from this project we hope to build a strong coalition of programs dedicated to serving Deaf and Deaf-Blind victims of sexual assault and domestic violence in this country and working towards ending violence.

APRIL 1996: DAVID SCHULTZ *vs.* YMCA



Attorney Alan J. Rich represented David Schultz in his lawsuit against the YMCA of the USA, charging discrimination on the basis of his deafness. On March 27, 1998, the First Circuit Court affirmed the decision of a Massachusetts federal court, which had dismissed the case. Rich argued the case in the Court of Appeals. He is also representing Stacy Bradley, a deaf lifeguard in Long Beach, California, as co-counsel in another suit. ("Her married name is Bradley but for purposes of the case we still use Adam.") The YMCA has issued a statement reaffirming its "hearing" requirement.

Here's Rich's update:

I am Stacy Adam's attorney with co-counsel Marshall Caskey in Los Angeles. Stacy's case is different [from David Schultz's]. Stacy's lifeguard duties were terminated at the local Y but her certification by the national YMCA of the USA was not rescinded. David was decertified but did not lose his job at the local Y. As you read the court decision, you will see that while the decision was bad for David, it actually was good for Stacy.

As for [the *Schultz* decision], While we were not pleased with it, it did offer some hopeful things,

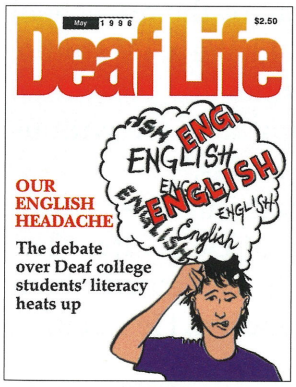
including that the court accounted for the possibility that a deaf person could be a fully competent lifeguard, that the Y did discriminate, and that, under circumstances of demonstrable economic loss, a right to sue would exist, as is precisely the case in *Adam*. In addition, the court also admitted this was a close call.

As for going to the Supreme Court, my first reaction was "Sure." But one must watch very carefully how the Supreme Court decides cases and be fairly sure that more damage would not be done by a potential loss than by leaving things as they are. The decision we got from the Court of Appeals was not to our liking, but it could be a lot worse. Going to the Supreme Court is a roll of the dice. If we come out with a decision that is harmful, then that is a serious risk for many more cases ahead of us. We are still weighing our options and want to proceed in the most productive manner possible.

At any rate, David's courage and fortitude have taken us a long way. Stacy Adam was inspired by an article her grandmother saved about David's case. That is how she got to me. She decided to sue. We have already settled the case with the local Long Beach Y, which really was just following [the] order of the national YMCA of the USA. The EEOC has already found discrimination in that case. David Schultz must be viewed as the man who paved the way, just as others of importance in the civil rights movement were not successful in the first attempts.

The struggle goes on and we will prevail. If not today, then tomorrow. I am confident. Nothing of value is ever gained easily but we will not stop until we get there. Stacy Adam, a wonderful lifeguard from Southern California, is more than halfway there since the local Y of Long Beach has already settled that half of the case.

MAY 1996: THE ENGLISH CONTROVERSY HEATS UP



On Sunday, March 10, 1996, Lew Golan's "Dialogue of the Deaf: What Gallaudet Won't Teach," a harsh criticism of Gallaudet's literacy standards, was published in **The Washington Post**. It sparked a firestorm of furious rebuttals and counter-rebuttals, shared across the information network. We reprinted Ben Gose's article in **The Chronicle of Higher Education**, along with rebuttals to Golan's criticisms from Dr. Jordan and Terry Coye, Coordinator of the English 2000 Literacy Program at Gallaudet. Michele Listisard devoted two "Beyond the Envelope" columns to the topic.

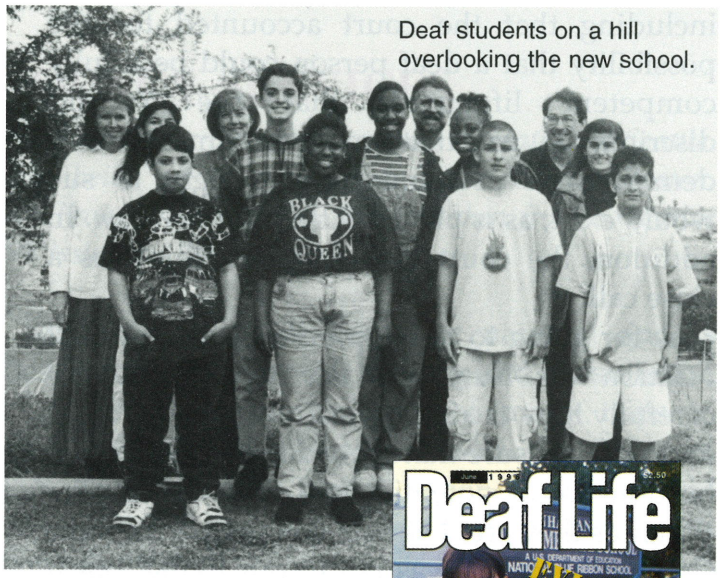
In mid-February 1997, Professor Jack Slutzky of NTID's Visual Communications Support Office wrote a scathing letter to the Rochester **Democrat & Chronicle**, describing ASL as a "street language" and comparing it to Ebonics. He complained about the low level of literacy (and comprehension) among his ASL-using students, and argued that ASL wasn't suitable for classroom instruction. In her December 1996 letter to **Deaf Life**, Deaf professor Jan Gemmill, one of the plaintiffs in a suit against Gallaudet, took an opposite view.

Gallaudet has been the target of ferocious verbal attacks on its standards and credentials as a university—and legal challenges to its "crackdown" on Bi-Bi. Deaf students are still graduating from public and residential schools with substandard literacy skills. One Gallaudet professor told us, "Public schools in America are doing a huge disservice to deaf children."

We received one other response to our update inquiries—from Sarah Hamrick, Director of Information Services at Gallaudet University Library. She says, "To be honest, I don't really know much about the fallout from Lew Golan's article in the **Post**. I know that there has been a lot of discussion this year about the English Department, and I'm also aware that the University continues to try to address the literacy issue in new and creative ways."

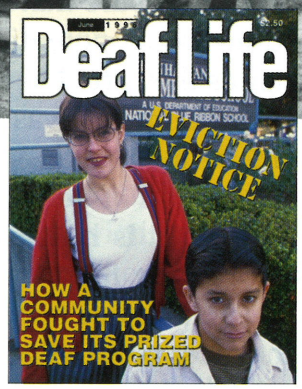
JUNE 1996:
MANHATTAN BEACH

Here's an exciting update from Patrick Sullivan of Manhattan Beach.



Deaf students on a hill overlooking the new school.

(FRED DECANIO III)



I feel that all parties to this conflict came away with renewed respect for deaf political activism, their determination to be included, and the many friends they have everywhere. One of the interesting offshoots of the local excitement was that the word got out around the local deaf community about what a terrific school system they had in Manhattan Beach and attendance has jumped. For one thing, the students can start in the eighth grade and continue on through high school to graduation with the same population of hearing classmates accompanying them on their journey.

When they arrive for eighth grade at the Manhattan Beach Intermediate School, all students receive an orientation from Fred DeCanio, a distinguished teacher. Dan O'Farrell teaches an optional daily sign-language class for the hearing students. There is a weekly 15-minute closed-circuit-TV show which includes a sign-language-instruction segment. Whether it's the talent show, the yearbook, the honor roll, or student government, deaf/HH students are well represented.

Principal Janet Schwabe can hardly wait to get into the brand-new, state-of-the-art school building next September. "Each classroom will be wired into the Internet. We'll have a TV studio, broadcasting daily with an interpreter. There will be greatly improved facilities for individual work between speech therapists, teachers, and deaf/HH students. We're happy they are with us and we appreciate their contribution to the learning that goes on, in and out of class."

Jenny Ferreira, one of the parent-protest leaders, tells me her son Mauricio has grown considerably, both in size and stature, since he appeared on the June '96 cover of **Deaf Life**. "The teachers are just about perfect, both in special-ed and mainstream. Mauricio is excited about school. He's on the basketball team. He stays up until 10 and 11, studying and reading. He's getting A's and B's, mostly A's. It's a parent's dream!"

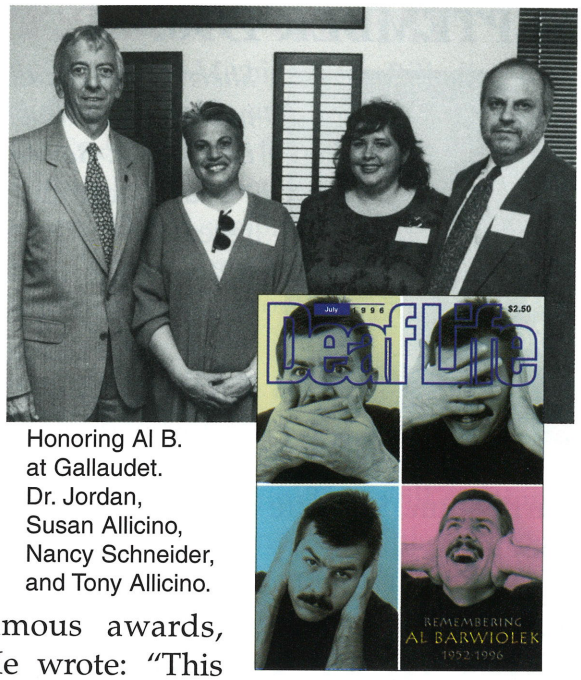
At Mira Costa High School, recently rated nationally number #39 in a "Best 100 U.S. Public High Schools" **Newsweek** survey, Jim Cahill, teacher of the deaf, says, "It's a dramatic improvement. We have wonderful classroom space in the middle of campus and we needed it. When the word got out, we doubled our enrollment. We have one boy playing basketball and football while carrying a 3.5 GPA and we have a young lady, the first deaf/HH student ever, who just got admitted to the Associated Student Body student-government class and she's getting ready to run for office. We're thriving!"

So two years later, it looks like all that excitement is just a dot in the rear-view mirror of life. There's so much to look forward to that there's no need to look back. Well, on the other hand, maybe we should remember that the reason we protested was that it was so good here, we'd do just about anything to get them to let us stick around!

Best of luck, **Deaf Life**. Just like these students, your future opens up before you. You have many friends who are proud of you on your tenth anniversary.

JULY 1996: REMEMBERING AL B.

Thanks to the efforts of Tony Allicino and friends, fast-growing scholarship funds were established in Alan R. Barwiolek's memory at Union County College, where he was a professor of ASL and Deaf Studies until his death, and at Gallaudet University, his undergraduate *alma mater*. UCC's scholarship is awarded annually to a student who has declared ASL Interpreting as a career track. Connie Paniconi was the first recipient (1997-98). Starting this Fall, Gallaudet's scholarship will be awarded annually to a junior or senior majoring in Deaf Studies. Both funds are fully endowed.



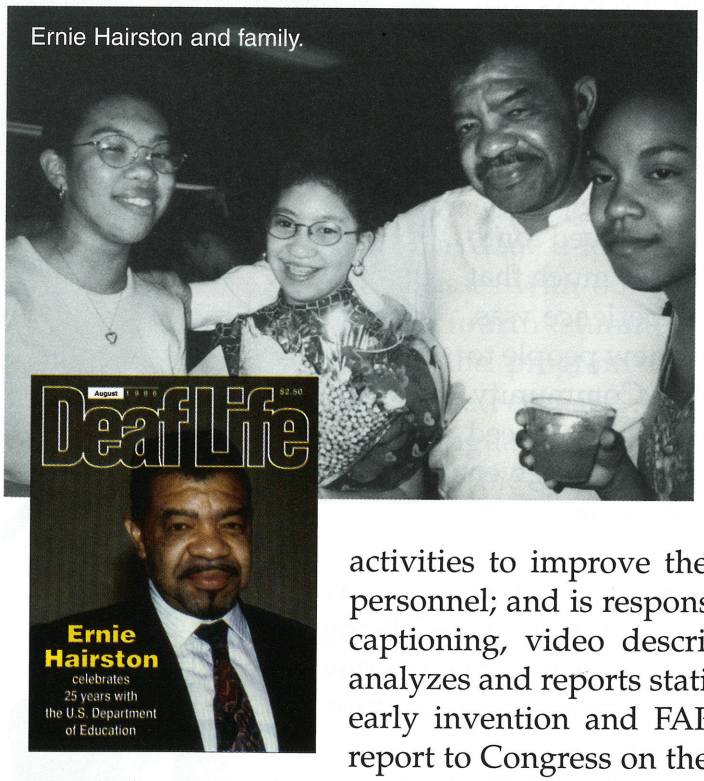
Honoring Al B. at Gallaudet. Dr. Jordan, Susan Allicino, Nancy Schneider, and Tony Allicino.

(GALLAUDET U.)

Shortly after Al B.'s death, Allicino began publishing *Friends of AlB's Scholarship Fund News*, an attractive newsletter charting the progress of the two scholarship funds and other memorials: tree-plantings, posthumous awards, performances, conference dedications, contributions. He wrote: "This outpouring of love for Alan has touched me deeply and helped me deal with my loss."

Ironically enough, Al B. feared that he would be forgotten after his death. But, as shown by the generosity of friends and supporters in the community, his name and legacy are being kept very much alive.

AUGUST 1996: ERNEST E. HAIRSTON

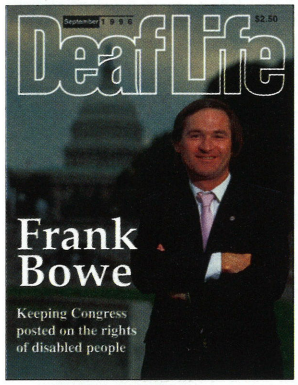


In Fall 1996, my responsibilities and number of staff increased as a result the Office of Special Education Programs' (OSEP) reorganization. I am now Associate Division Director and Team Leader for the National Initiatives Team within OSEP's Research to Practice Division. There are 14 members on my team, as opposed to the 3 to 5 I supervised as Branch Chief.

The National Initiatives Team is responsible for assessing the national progress being made to implement the local efforts to provide early-intervention services and a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to all infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities; supports activities to improve the quality and increase the supply of leadership personnel; and is responsible for the administration of programs to bring captioning, video description, and related technology. The Team also analyzes and reports statistical information on the progress being made in early invention and FAPE; and oversees the preparation of an annual report to Congress on the national progress to implement IDEA.

My daily routine has not changed much except for an increased number of managerial and team meetings. There are also more reports and documents to review and clear. Now that the DOE has a Website that includes OSEP programs and activities, I have been receiving an increased number of calls for information. I continue to find my work challenging and fulfilling.

SEPTEMBER 1996: DR. FRANK G. BOWE



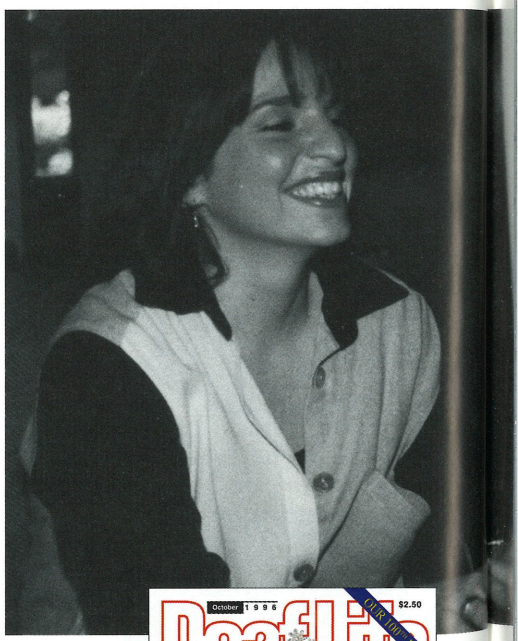
Sherri Kimmel authored two previous ***Deaf Life*** *articles about Frank Bowe that ran in September 1996. She caught up with one of our best-known deaf advocates again in June. Dr. Bowe told her:*

I am continuing to enjoy the professional life—teaching, writing, research—at Hofstra I was recently named Distinguished Teacher of the Year by the university. This summer I am completing two textbooks for graduate studies in the area of special education.

My older daughter, Doran, was just graduated, with honors, from the University of Pennsylvania; she began work at a law firm in New York City at the end of June. My younger daughter, Whitney, just completed her freshman year at Yale University, where she is pursuing a pre-med curriculum. My wife and I are adjusting to the "empty nest" syndrome and enjoying the quiet. (Smile.)

OCTOBER 1996: MEGHAN RAINONE
MISS DEAF AMERICA 1996-98

Meghan Rainone was a guest on DeafChat's first special chat program on May 6, shortly before she graduated from RIT with a degree in Criminal Justice. She writes:



First of all, I would like to congratulate Matthew Moore and his dedicated staff on their celebration of the 10th Anniversary of **Deaf Life**. Their contribution in providing valuable insights on meritorious issues within the Deaf community exceeds our expectations. From the time when I first met Matthew Moore for my photo shoot for the October '96 cover, I have come to respect him greatly as a publisher and as a friend. I have every confidence that **Deaf Life** will continue their commitment and give us nothing but the best.

I recently completed a chapter in my life and moved onto another. As Miss Deaf America, I have accomplished so much that I can't even begin to tell you how valuable the experience was. Every aspect of my life was enriched, from meeting new people to refining my perspective about issues within the Deaf Community. Even my professional career choice has been greatly influenced by my journey. Without this role, I would not have been given such great opportunities to maximize my potential and contribute to the Deaf community on such a large scale.

Now is the time for me to open a new door and capitalize on my professional career. Who knows what the future will bring for me? Being Miss Deaf America taught me a valuable lesson, and that is to live happily in the present moment and not dwell on the past or worry about the future. All I have planned is to live a happy and fulfilling life.

Thank you all for your continued support. I especially want to thank my parents and my best friends, Becky and Andrew, for their consistent support and love during the times when I needed it the most. I couldn't have done it without all of them. Finally, I wish best of luck to the new Miss Deaf America on her endeavors!"

NOVEMBER 1996: *DEAFNATION'S FIRST ANNIVERSARY*

DeafNation was launched in October 1995 by three Michiganders: Billy Schwall, Jr. (Managing Editor), Marvin Miller (Editor-in-Chief), and Jon Kovacs (Public Relations & Marketing). It was the first Deaf newspaper to feature full-color photos and graphics. After **DeafNation** made its colorful debut, other "Deaf papers" scrambled to incorporate color, too . . . a nice indirect compliment!

Staff Writer Trudy Suggs did some of her best reportage for **DeafNation**, including the original exposé of Holly Daniel's Saturn TV commercial and print ad. (See June 1997 update.)

In January 1998, Miller assumed sole responsibility as publisher. Jon Kovacs continues as **DeafNation's** business/PR manager. Miller tells us: "I have taken over the reins of **DeafNation** since last January, and it has been running smoothly. **DeafNation** has seen its subscription base grow nicely and steadily. This will continue for quite a while. :-) We currently continue to work with freelance writers and columnists for our newspaper, and we hope to hire several new section editors within [a] 6-to-8-month time-frame."

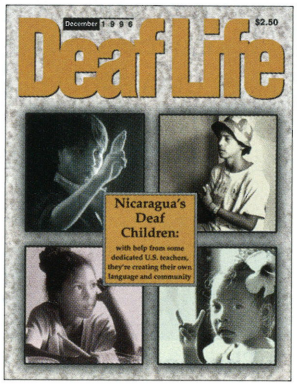
DeafNation was, and still is, put together by dedicated moonlighters working in a cyber-office. One of the main reasons for the January 1998 *perestroika* (reshuffling) was simple: the difficulties of juggling **DeafNation**, outside job responsibilities, and family life. Each of the **DeafNation** "chiefs" held full-time outside jobs; each had families.

"Basically, the primary goal of **DeafNation** has remained pretty much the same: High-quality news coverage, high-quality layout design, and excellent customer service. A lot of internal changes (operations and procedures) [have] been made, and it will continue to improve."

Meghan Rainone online during DeafChat's special program on May 6, a joint effort of NTID and MSM Productions, Ltd.

You can visit us at www.deafchat.com.

DECEMBER 1996:
NICARAGUA'S DEAF CHILDREN



James Shepard-Kegl, who coordinates the Nicaraguan Sign Language Project, provides an update:

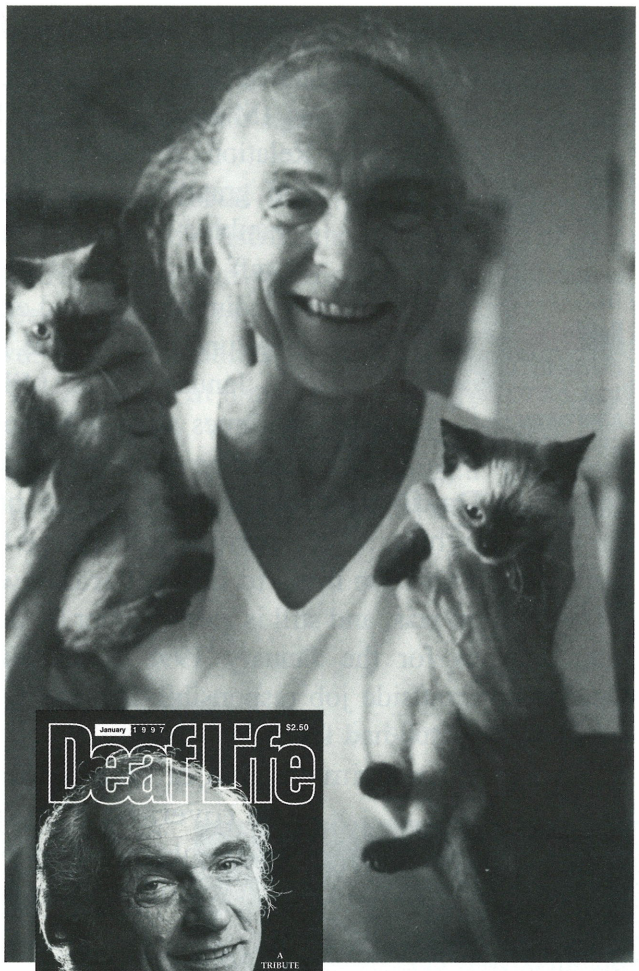
We have done a lot at Escuelita de Bluefields since 1996. Classes with our full staffing resumed in June for our fourth summer session. (We have been running the program two months each winter, as well.) Since February, Anselmo Aleman, the 19-year-old Nicaraguan student whom we brought for a visit to the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf last fall, has been conducting daily classes for four primary-grade children. It will be interesting to see how these 7- and 8-year olds have progressed in our absence.

Using SignWriting, we have now produced several hundred pages of history lessons, children's stories, and classical myths. Our SignWriting dictionary is up to 1,400 entries—well short of our long-term 10,000-entry goal, but a solid beginning of an arduous process. Our plan in June was to again concentrate on language and basic math skills. However, last January we introduced concepts of Nicaraguan Sign Language grammar and syntax. Because many of the children are developing fluency with Nicaraguan Sign Language, we felt they were ready to grasp the notion that languages, including their own, are rule-governed. This summer, we will discuss sign-language grammar in much greater depth, and begin to compare and contrast Nicaraguan Sign Language grammar with Spanish grammar.

JANUARY 1997: ANDY VASNICK

How did ***Curioser and Curioser*** go? I'd say it went *very well* and *kept improving*, thanks to a serious cast. Everything looked smooth and relatively simple—but the work was really *hard*.

I was with the *Childsplay* Theatre in Tempe last year (April/May 1997). A "new" play, ***Phenomenal Smith***, with me being that character. As a deaf "guardian angel" I tried to teach a kid how to become a good pitcher since his prayer was to become a great baseball player—but he only needed to learn to communicate. So there's where ASL became significant—the kid learned to really talk *with* and *for* me—*and* to all the others. *Childsplay* has an exceptionally great cast. The play was partly shadow-interpreted by three fantastic interpreters. It was a play where the *deaf actor* can fit in and share the leading roles. Most enjoyable! The audience were fascinated and attentive (mostly) street kids from the metro area and some [from] Tucson.



Andy holding twin brothers Kawaii Taiyo and Kawaii Kaze.

No play this year. I decided to be a veritable "house-husband," what with a new home and, more importantly, growing Rottweilers. They "demand" attention like children do, to say nothing of the 6 cats. With Sandi devoting her time to school, we didn't have much free time to go anywhere other than some parks nearby.

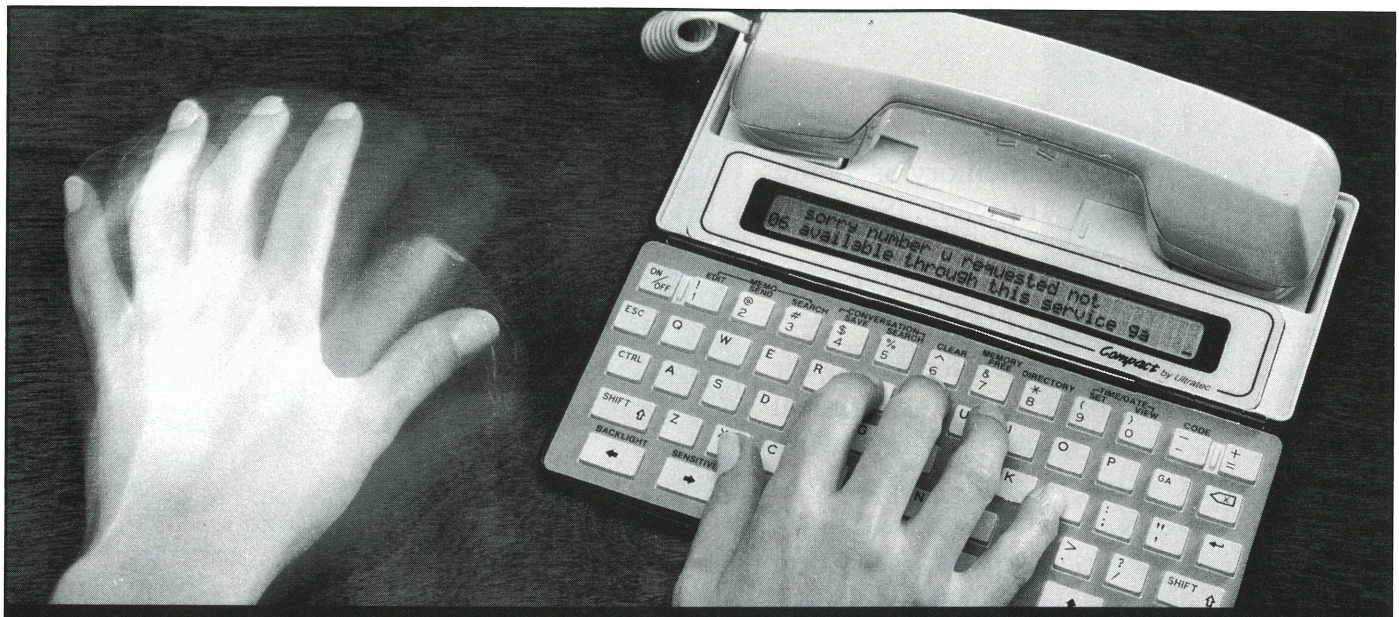
A script is being sent me for a play [next Spring] with *Childsplay* Theatre. So I'll be back into acting—very tight schedule, yeah. I can only pray I'll remain robust beyond my 72nd year! Still thinking young—and just a *beginner* . . . who loves life too much.

FEBRUARY 1997: DEAF SPORTS WAR

The national Deaf Sports scene underwent more change in Spring 1998. The American Athletic Association of the Deaf is now the U.S.A. Deaf Sports Federation. President Larry Fleischer and Executive Director Shirley Platt resigned their positions, but remain involved. Dr. Bobbie Beth Scoggins, Executive Director of the Kentucky Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, is the new President. Valerie G. Kinney is Administrative Assistant.

At a mid-June meeting, USA Deaf Basketball (USADB) and American Basketball Association of the Deaf (ABAD) agreed in principle to merge as one national sports organization, to provide a comprehensive national basketball program under the auspices of the USADSF. Final details were to be worked out later.

As Platt explained to us, AAAD's name change took place for three reasons: 1.) The word 'American' is non-specific. 2.) The word *athletics* in Europe means track and field. The proper word here is *sports*. 3.)The word *association* is usually used for a single organization. AAAD is an organization of many sports, so the appropriate word is *federation*.



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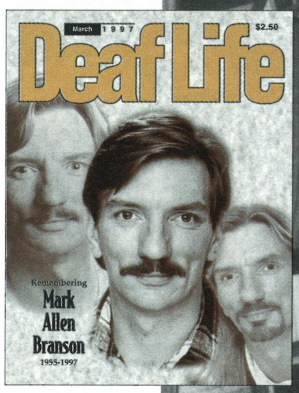
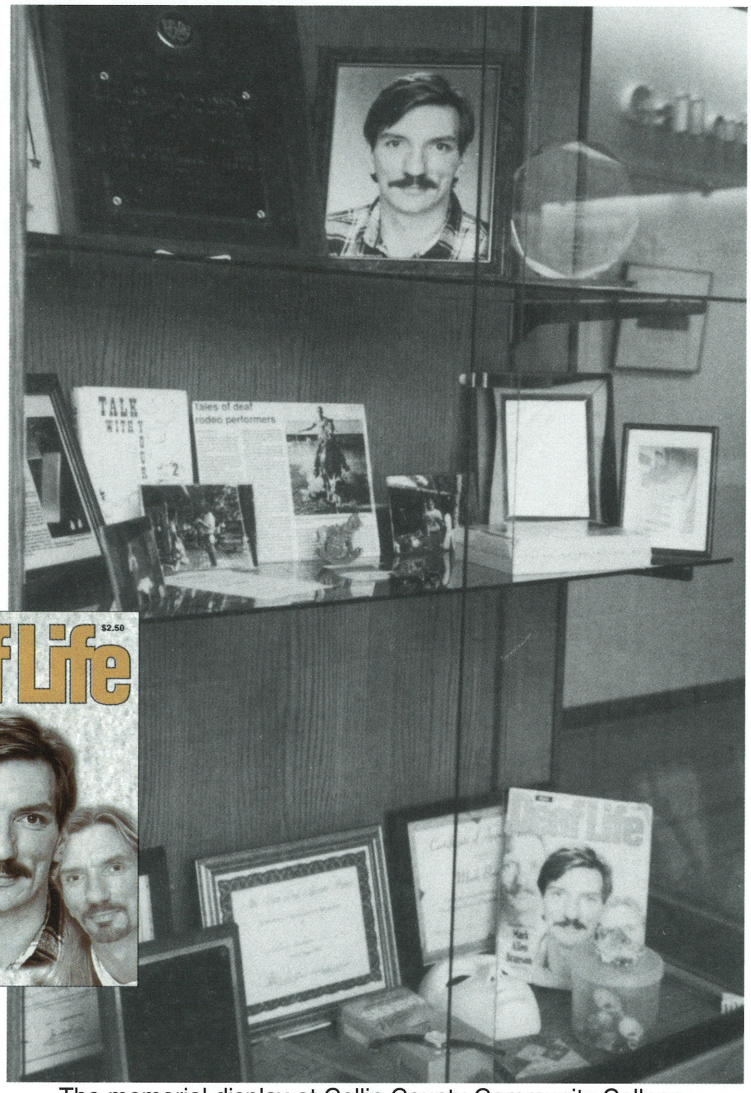
MARCH 1997:
MARK ALLEN BRANSON

Mark Allen Branson's memory is being perpetuated in a variety of ways. (See June 1993 update.)

Arlene M. Velleman, Branson's fellow performer and close friend, tells us, "I still teach Special Ed . . . do some interpreting for friends . . . have returned to singing classical repertoire . . . and I am presenting my workshops on using drama activities to develop communication/language skills. I always close my workshops by dedicating them to 'my mentor, teacher, best friend, acting partner, soulmate . . . Mark Branson.' He was my motivation to start presenting, which he had a chance to be proud of before he died.





The memorial display at Collin County Community College. (HELENE GILBERT/CCCC)

"The latest honor for Mark's work is by far the most exciting!" Charles Trevino, Interpreter Coordinator at North Harris College in Houston, "is spearheading an effort to have a production of Mark's one-man show, ***The Trunk***, at the college, to be produced by Thomas Blanton. I have promised to share my knowledge of the show and some of our props (like Mark's slides). Next to performing the show himself, I know Mark would love to know his play will continue to be enjoyed and to be a Deaf cultural-art 'landmark!' I can't wait to sit in the front row on opening night!

"Mark's dog, Blackie, continues to thrive and enjoys his 'adopted' home north of Dallas."

Helene Cohen-Gilbert of Collin County Community College says:

I wanted to let you know that Mark's legacy lives on here at CCCC! We have memorialized Mark in the following ways:

1) We have a permanent memorial display case located in our library just outside the entrance to the ASL Lab.

2) We have a special plaque inside the memorial display case that commemorates who Mark is, his accomplishments, and his sense of humanity.

3) Our library has ordered many books related to Deaf Culture, Deaf theater, and interpreting, which bear Mark's name on a small 'memorial plaque' on the inside cover of each book.

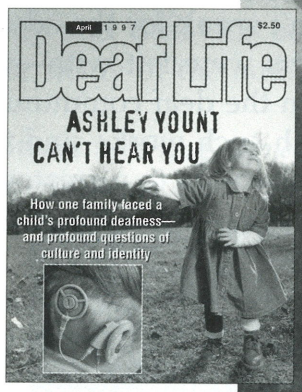
4) We have established a scholarship fund in Mark's name. It is used for Deaf students needing assistance with non-tuition costs (since Deaf students in the state of Texas have tuition waivers) and/or Interpreting students who need assistance with tuition. We welcome donations to this scholarship fund.

I am very pleased to hear that you're doing this anniversary issue. I think Mark's smiling on us!

APRIL 1997: ASHLEY YOUNT

Last summer, Ashley Yount and her family relocated from Houston, Texas, to rural Weston, Missouri, not too far from Kansas City. Julie Yount provided a detailed update. Here's an excerpt.

Three months after leaving Houston, Ashley began speech with a therapist who has worked with deaf children in the past, and is now excelling beyond belief. She currently is enrolled in a Head Start program whose curriculum is Hi-Scope, and they have incorporated the Dazzle into her sessions. The teachers have taken sign classes and exchange signs with Ashley on occasion.



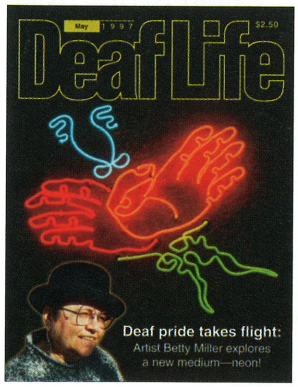
Ashley speaks four recognizable words to a sentence, communicates orally with the other hearing children, carries a tune with a nice tone, approximates most words recognizably, understands main ideas when short sentences are said, and is progressing each day.

While shopping recently, Ashley asked to buy batteries for her implant. She would not put them in the basket, but carried them through the store and on the drive home. When her batteries start to diminish, she puts a new one in. She refused to take the implant off at bedtime until last month—she woke up and couldn't find the coil. It was a while before we found it and she expressed great concern of not being able to hear us speaking.

Ashley enjoys listening and easily distinguishes between sounds, such as coyotes howling, thunder in the sky, a hoot owl in a nearby tree, or a cow in the pasture. She brings our attention to sounds.

I was invited to speak to the third-graders as to what it's like to have a deaf child in our family. Ashley came along with me, and the children loved her. She took her implant off, just the same as she had done as a 2-year-old with hearing aids, and let the children look at it while she told them all about it helping her to hear. She talks and signs to the children. Matter of fact, she and I teach sign language to the first-graders every week. They love it!!!

MAY 1997: BETTY MILLER

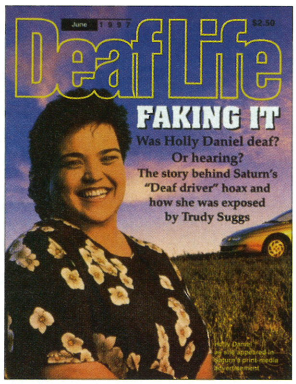


Since our cover story on Betty Miller appeared, Nancy Creighton reports, "requests for her work and/or lectures have soared. She has lectured on De'VIA (Deaf View Image Art) at the University of Virginia's annual *ASL/Deaf Culture Lecture Series*."

Miller has completed several artworks commissioned by Deaf individuals and private corporations. Due to increasing demand, she appointed Lisa J. Berke as her artist's representative. This enables Miller to focus on her artwork while Berke handles all inquiries related to sales, commissions, and lecture arrangements. Miller may also participate in a tentatively proposed traveling exhibit of Deaf Artists' works, coordinated by Brenda Schertz.

Miller's new book, **Deaf and Sober**, is being published by the NAD. She continues to provide part-time consultation and counseling on addiction issues at the Gallaudet University Community Mental Health Center, and gives workshops on this sensitive topic around the country.

JUNE 1997: HOLLY DANIEL'S "SATURN HOAX"



It was one of the strangest stories we'd seen: Holly Daniel's portrayal of herself as a Deaf woman in Saturn's TV commercials and magazine ads.

We finally got an E-mailed response from her: "In order to assist you in getting correct information, I am not working as an interpreter anywhere. I do not have a recent photograph. The only thing further that I can say is that the commercial was never intended to hurt anyone, and if it did, I am sorry."

Eric Zorn of the **Chicago Tribune** writes: "Readers still remember with pleasure to me the columns I wrote about how Trudy Suggs exposed the Saturn-ad hoax. I can't speak for the ad community, but it's my sense that the impression readers were left with—was both of deaf pride (that this would be a matter of strong concern within the deaf community) and of the tenacity and skill of Trudy Suggs, a deaf journalist. It's through such work—and through such dramatic presentations as ***Sweet Nothing***, that the public at large comes to a greater understanding of the dimensions and subtleties of deaf pride and the deaf culture. It was certainly true for me."

Trudy Suggs and her friend Randy at NSD (which just closed), June 1996.

And Trudy Suggs has been busy since she exposed Daniel's Saturn-ad hoax. "After I graduated from graduate school, I took a year off. I did teach a few classes here and there to make ends meet. Then I was accepted into the Peace Corps after an application process that took about 8 months and was due to leave [in May]. But due to personal commitments, I decided not to go at this point in my life. Maybe someday. I am currently living in Minnesota, and working in St. Paul at a nonprofit agency as their Director of Programming."

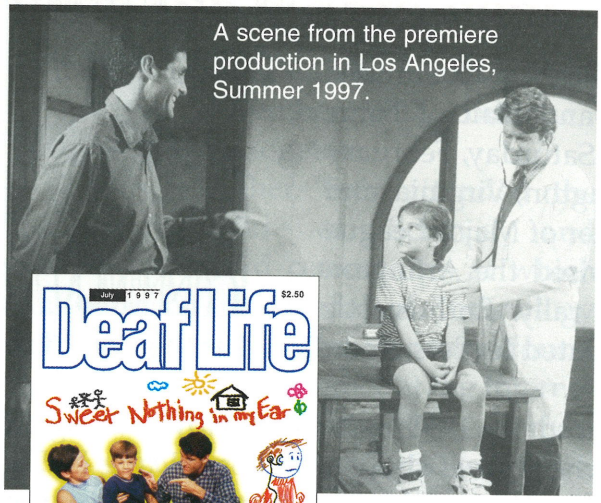
Greg Martin, now Saturn's Manager of Corporate Communications, sent us a gracious response. He admitted that he's bothered by phrases such as "the Saturn hoax" or "Saturn's deaf-ad hoax," which imply that Saturn *knowingly* participated in the trickery (which it didn't). As for the possibility of Saturn featuring a real "Deaf ad," he leaves the door open. And he too has high praise for Suggs:

"'Hoax' implies Saturn intentionally mislead customers while knowing full well that Ms. Daniel was not deaf. This was never the case because Ms. Daniel misled Saturn. Unfortunately our trust and belief in people's honesty allowed us to be misled by Ms. Daniel. If anything, such a hoax was Ms. Daniel's and hers alone. As such, we feel the need to be compassionate toward Ms. Daniel, who, through her behavior, is an obviously troubled woman. Therefore, we have taken no punitive action toward her because she has experienced great discredit and jeopardized her professional relationships as a result of her action. As you know, we immediately discontinued all forms of the Holly Daniel ad once we learned of her mis-portrayal.

"Currently, our advertising focuses more on the car rather than people. We have scaled back on the ownership experience in our ads. At this time, no ads featuring deaf people are in development. However, at the appropriate time, we would consider an ad featuring a deaf person with input from the deaf community. We will keep you posted if plans develop."

Martin, by the way, has several Deaf relatives and is knowledgeable about Deaf issues. He extends his regards to the **Deaf Life** team, "in particular, Trudy Suggs, who I sincerely believe had the best investigative story of 1997 in covering Ms. Daniel. I respect her skills and determination."

JULY 1997: *SWEET NOTHING IN MY EAR*



(FOUNTAIN THEATRE)

Following an extended run at the Fountain Theatre, ***Sweet Nothing in My Ear*** had a full Equity production at Chicago's Victory Gardens Theater, April 4-May 24. Stephen Sachs again directed his award-winning and critically-acclaimed play, which featured over half of the members of the original Los Angeles cast.

Diane Kallenback, publicist for the Chicago production, told us, "The audience have really been a mix of hearing and deaf. It's been a very emotional experience for many of the audience members. Bring hankies!"

Just before ***Sweet Nothing*** *opened in Chicago, there was exciting news: the script had been optioned by Barwood Films, Barbra Streisand's production company, for development into a movie. In early June, Sachs told us:*

I'm in the middle of writing the screenplay. Barwood Films is optioning the film rights. It will be a Movie-for-Television. Shooting won't start for several months. I have yet to turn in the script. There is no director set. No casting has been done.

I had many, many meetings in Hollywood with many, many film companies about making ***Sweet Nothing*** into a film. There was tremendous interest. What impressed me most about Barwood was that they wanted to keep the story intact. Maintain the integrity of the play. And the challenge of Sign Language on TV didn't scare them. The big question in Hollywood was, "What do we do with all this Sign Language"? Barwood wasn't scared.

The play remains a joy for me. Watching audiences experience the play in Chicago and Los Angeles—seeing their eyes widen, their mouths open, their bodies lean forward, the tears falling—reminded me of why we do theatre. To change lives, challenge minds, open eyes, stir hearts.

In both L.A. and Chicago, audiences argued with each other during intermission—and after the play—over what would be best for Adam. They debated, took sides—who was right, Dan or Laura? What would YOU do if YOUR child was deaf?

The play will be produced by Cleveland Signstage next year. There is interest from other theatres around the country—and London. I look forward to many more productions.

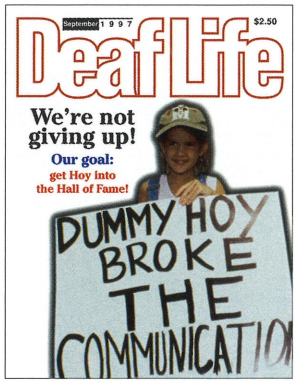
August 1997: THE *WASHINGTON POST* STORY

Marie Arana-Ward's article, "As Technology Advances, A Bitter Debate Divides the Deaf," was published in the May 11, 1997 issue of **The Washington Post** as a front-page story. We reprinted it, together with several of the original photos, followed by responses from Suzy Rosen of the NAD, Harlan Lane of Northeastern University, and James E. Tucker, Superintendent of MSD-Frederick, who were dissatisfied with the way Arana-Ward had reported the issues and quoted them.

For updates, we contacted Arana-Ward and the Sunderland family, whose son Jason was shown in our cover photo adjusting his cochlear implant. (The extreme close-up view—by Robert A. Reeder—was the only photograph of Jason Sunderland we could obtain from the **Post**.) We received no responses.

We are planning further coverage of this issue, including interviews with parents of children with implants, implant-wearers themselves, advocates, and researchers.

SEPTEMBER 1997:
RALLYING FOR "DUMMY" HOY



Since the 1997 Induction Day rally in Cooperstown, the Hoy Committee has been working hard, contacting influential media and Hall of Fame people and enlisting their support. Rallies were held on Saturday, February 21, 1998, in front of the **USA Today** headquarters in Arlington, Virginia, and on February 28, in front of the Office of the Commissioner of Major League Baseball, 350 Park Avenue, New York City. ESPN televised the Arlington rally; ***Eyewitness TV News*** covered the Park Avenue rally. Enthusiastic crowds at both rallies expressed support for Hoy, distributed leaflets, and did what they could to raise public awareness.

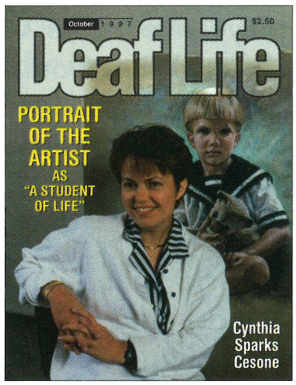
On March 3, when the Veterans Committee announced its 1998 inductees, Hoy was again bypassed for the Hall of Fame. (The 19th-century player chosen was shortstop George Davis [1870-1940], who played for the New York Giants and the Chicago White Sox.) That left *one* more year in which to secure enough votes for Hoy's induction. The Hoy Committee immediately made plans for another rally, to be held at the 1998 Induction Day ceremonies on Sunday, July 26.

As Hoy Committee Chairman Randy Fisher notes: "We are concerned about the diminishing window of opportunity left for 19th-century and Negro League players. We would like to see the 5-year "window of opportunity" extended indefinitely.

"Getting someone inducted into the Hall of Fame is a long, strenuous, [painstaking] process and not an easy job to do. It takes a lot of patience and understanding, especially when circumstances are not favorable to us. Given the fact that there are other groups pushing their candidate for consideration, we face strong competition for due consideration by the Veterans Committee. However, we remain strongly optimistic that Dummy Hoy will, one day, be inducted in the Baseball Hall of Fame and take his place with baseball's greatest players."

Sidenote: The enthusiastic young fan on the cover is Vanessa Gaebel of Staten Island.

OCTOBER 1997: CYNTHIA SPARKS CESONE



This original version of this story was sent to us by Peggie Parsons, and we expanded and developed it through vigorous E-mail "conversations" with Cindy Cesone—sending interview questions, getting responses, incorporating changes, and E-mailing back the new draft for feedback and approval. (E-mail, which we had been using for a year, streamlined our interviewing techniques, making it easier to communicate with our profiles, and *vice versa*. With this story, we went through a number of drafts. We also learned that E-mailers often keep late hours!)

After the cover story was published, one reader/contributor noted the close resemblance of Cindy Cesone's style of portraiture to that of her father, William Bruce Sparks. Even their signatures were similar. She felt that too much space was devoted to the details of various communication modes and not enough to Cesone as an artist. She posed some very good questions: what medium does Cesone use? Oils? What's her technique? How does she go about creating her distinctive portraits? Where is her studio set up? How does she arrange sittings? And so forth.

We, of course, were curious to know what effect the story had had on her portraiture business. We do know that she and her husband, Dennis Cesone, were delighted with the story. But . . . we didn't receive a response to our inquiries, so the questions remain unanswered.

NOVEMBER 1997:
VINT AND SIGRID CERF

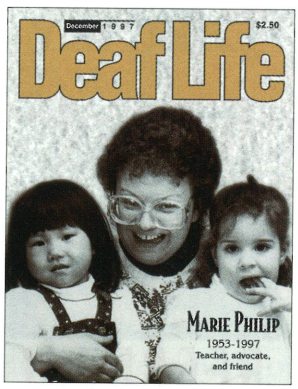
Vint and Sigrid Cerf, the "hearing-repaired" couple we met in November 1997, continue to enjoy an adventurous life together.

In mid-December, they attended the National Medal of Science and Technology award ceremonies, at which Vint received the Medal of Technology from President Clinton. January found them in the south of France at the Internet Society's French chapter's annual meeting. Late in January, Sigrid went on a tour of Spain, Portugal, and Morocco, and Vint met her in Madrid on Valentine's Day. After concluding his business in Madrid, Sigrid and Vint both travelled to the Spanish island of Mallorca, where Vint received an honorary doctorate from the University of the Balearic Islands. The ceremonies were elegant and involved an elaborate academic costume.

On July 2, Vint received the Bell Award for his service to the deaf and hard-of-hearing community, from the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf at its 1998 International Convention in Little Rock He was cited for his "incredible contribution to building a whole new world of communication access." He also gave an address "on his vision of the impact of the Internet on persons with disabilities in the coming millennium."

Sigrid has a new hobby: photography. Using the new Advanced Photo System camera and film, Sigrid is documenting her travels with a seemingly endless array of pictures.

DECEMBER 1997: MARIE PHILIP



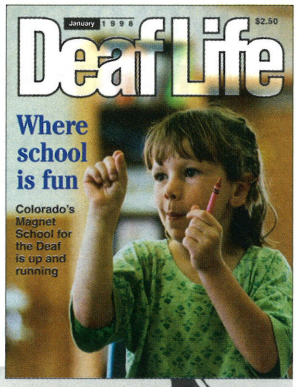
Marie Jean Philip (known by her distinctive "MP" namesign), was an influential ASL teacher and a dynamic advocate of the Bilingual-Bicultural approach. She was warm, funny, a superb signer, held firm convictions, and was selflessly devoted to the Deaf community, especially deaf children. Her sudden death on September 24, 1997 (from a pulmonary embolism), provoked widespread mourning in the community. The tributes in this issue came from nearby and abroad, from colleagues, students, and a niece.

On May 15, 1998, The Learning Center for Deaf Children in Framingham, Massachusetts, hosted a celebration of MP's life. Keynote speakers included Mike Bello, current Executive Director; Warren Schwab, TLC's first Director; ASL researcher and poet Ben Bahan; professor and author Bob Hoffmeister; and advocate and teacher MJ Bienvenu.

Leslie C. Greer, whose humorous recollection of MP in Japan was included in our cover feature, told us that 500 friends, colleagues, students, and teachers attended the tribute. A good turnout! Chuck Baird's memorial sculpture (showing MP's namesign and symbolizing her outreach to the community) was also unveiled there.

TLC's Eve Michaels says: "Our ultimate goal is to honor MP as well as share the memories and priceless wisdom that she gave to all she knew."

JANUARY 1998: THE MAGNET SCHOOL



The Magnet School of the Deaf in Lakewood, Colorado, has completed its first school year of operation, and is preparing for its second. Enrollment is expected to climb. Director Clifford Moers says: "We are a bunch of happy and proud people."

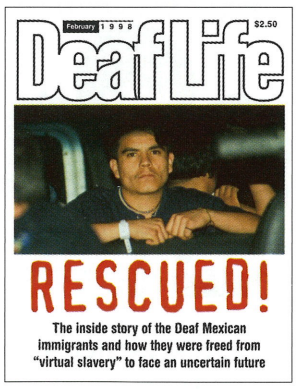
Our cover featured Glenn Asakawa's lovely photograph of Martha Wolcott. We invited her mother, Damita Jo Wolcott, to comment. She is Deaf, by the way.

How many public schools does a state have? "Millions." If a hearing family is not happy with a school, they can simply move to another area in the town. My daughter is a native ASL user. The choice is minimal to zero. Many schools in Colorado do not use ASL in the classrooms; they use signed English or invented signs. I have no problem with the Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind. If it [were] not for MSD, I would keep Martha there, although CSDB is located one hour and a half south from my home. MSD is the only school in Colorado that supports and uses ASL in the classrooms.

Magnet School of the Deaf, 1997-98, at Slater Elementary School: a proud group portrait.

Martha asked me one night while I was reading her a book, "Are you signing ASL or English? Can you show me both languages so I can see the difference?" I did. She observed and said, "Yeah, I can see the difference. I prefer to read English and watch ASL." I have been seeing stories about ASL and how educators of the deaf and officials condemn this beautiful language. They would poison new parents of deaf children to stay away from ASL. "ASL is BAD!" they say. If that is so, should I go to Maine, dig up my grandmother's grave, and tell her that the language she used was wrong?

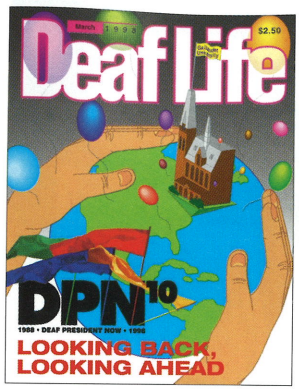
FEBRUARY 1998: THE DEAF MEXICANS



The ordeal of *los muditos* is over. The 49 Deaf Mexican victims of the Queens trinket-peddling ring, and their 11 children, will be allowed to stay in the United States because of their help in getting their brutal "bosses" and "enforcers" convicted. None will be deported.

The Federal trials of 18 defendants ended on June 19. The Mexicans and their children, who had been held in custody at the Westway Motor Inn in Queens since last July, were to be released within 30 days. They will be allowed to stay in city-owned housing in Brooklyn as long as they need, and are free to go anywhere they want. They will be fed, clothed, and housed; their children go to school. $1 million has been reserved for their care. Several nonprofit organizations offered to pay for whatever training they needed to become self-sufficient. Other organizations will help them apply for Federal welfare benefits and food stamps. They can apply for special S-visas. Those who want to return to Mexico will be free to do so as soon as travel arrangements can be made. Some 10 to 15 of the Mexicans do want to go back, but most are afraid to; they fear retaliation from the families of the men and women they helped convict. Once they have S-visas, they can apply for legal residency in 3 years, and 5 years after that, full citizenship.

MARCH 1998: DPN's 10th ANNIVERSARY



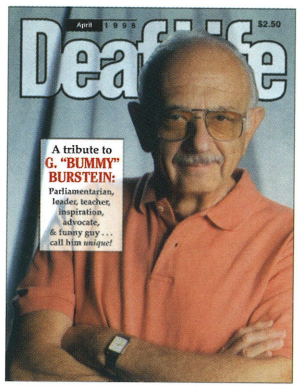
As we had done 5 years previously, we contacted a number of people who had played active roles in DPN (as many as we could), and asked them how they felt about their experiences and how they saw DPN's importance as a cultural and political event, its long-range effects, and its historical significance. What was DPN's impact on them? How did they see it in the context of the disability-rights movement? We also asked them about DPN's effect on media perceptions of Deaf people, if they saw the cochlear-implant movement as a socio-political backlash, DPN's role as a catalyst for positive changes in the community, and the criticisms of those who argue that Gallaudet places too much emphasis on "Deaf power" and ASL and not enough on English literacy.

We felt that now was a good time to ask tough questions. What does DPN mean to us now? What does it mean, and what will it mean, to young deaf people, those were too young to appreciate the significance of the event in 1988, and those who were not yet born? Was DPN a one-time phenomenon—when deaf and hard-of-hearing people temporarily laid aside their ideological quarrels and united for a common cause? Is unity possible? Could we do it again? Have we made progress since DPN, or have we regressed? Has DPN's effect been dwindling? Can the spirit be rekindled?

We received several responses—and didn't have quite enough room for everything! Our respondents gave us thoughtful, articulate replies.

Our coverage continued with a photoessay from the actual celebration and excerpts from Dr. Zinser's speech in the June 1998 issue.

APRIL 1998: "BUMMY" BURSTEIN



Our cover profile of Gerald "Bummy" Burstein was a big hit with readers, especially those who know and have worked with him. Several responses, each focusing on different aspects of Bummy's contributions to our community, appear in this month's "Letters to the Editor." More are on the way.

Here's his update. (Till next language, Bummy, take care!)

Not much progress since the April 1998 issue. I remain a sexy senior citizen. [As of] the July issue, I have given 157 parliamentary procedure workshops including two in July: one at the NAD Conference [Austin, Texas] and the other at the *Canadian Deaf Festival '98* near Toronto. My videotape, ***Bummy's Basic Parliamentary Workshop***, produced by DawnSignPress, is now on the market. [VITAC provided the captioning, by the way.]

I have been chosen by the California Public Utilities Commission to serve on a five-member committee to begin implementing a telecommunications program to provide the placement of TTYs in existing buildings and public accommodations in the state of California.

I have been chosen by the California Public Utilities Commission to serve on a five-member committee to begin implementing a telecommunications program to place TTYs in existing buildings and program to place TTYs in existing buildings and public accommodations in the state of California.

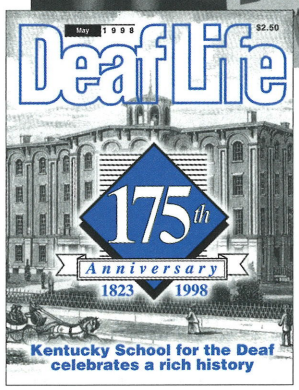
The Mayor and City Council of Riverside, California, have appointed me to serve on the Model Deaf Community Task Force.

I've been elected President of the Gallaudet University Alumni Association after two terms (6 years) as Immediate Past President of GUAA.

MAY 1998: KSD's 175th ANNIVERSARY

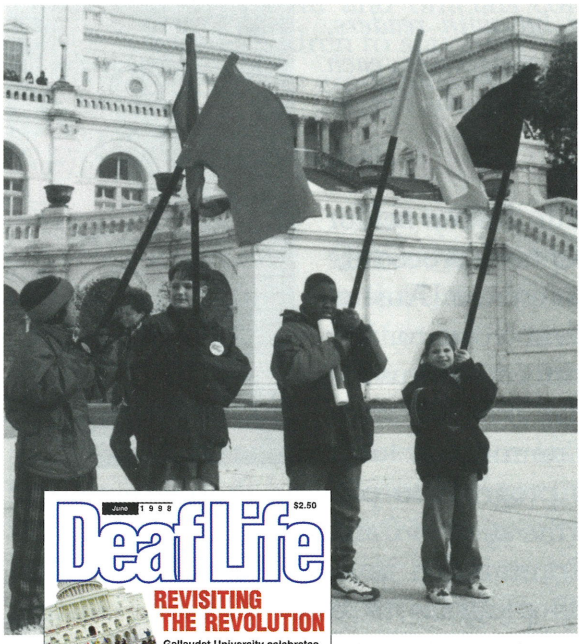
Kentucky School for the Deaf marked its 175th anniversary with a week-long celebration. Artie Grassman, Director of Outreach Services & Community Relations, reports that it kicked off on Monday, March 30, in Grow Dining Hall, with a 175th-anniversary cake. "There was a schoolwide dessert party and students reported on the week's events. The elementary school really 'stole the show,' but everyone made valuable contributions. On Thursday, we planted the 175th-anniversary tree (a pin oak) between Thomas Hall Gym and Kerr Hall (high-school building). And next to it we planted a *time capsule*! We pledged to return in the year 2023 to find out what's in it!"

The week's highlight: a banquet organized by Archie Harris, who chaired the anniversary events, with help from other volunteers. The Thomas Hall Gym was beautifully transformed into a banquet hall by Art Instructor Barbie Harris, her students, and committee members. "It was a truly special evening with many visiting dignitaries." Over 500 people attended. Superintendent Harvey J. Corson told the crowd, "We are only 175 years young!" Merv Garretson was the guest speaker; entertainment was provided by Keith Vinci and Leslie Warren of the CRIDDERS. "It was a memorable night, and definitely a week to remember."



Kassie and Kayla Stutler at the festivities. (KSD)

JUNE 1998: CELEBRATING DPN-10



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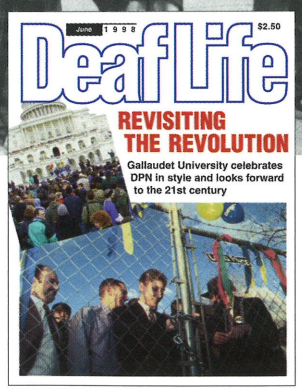

Deaf children take turns holding flags at the Capitol.

Fittingly, our first monthly issue (July 1988) and this issue, which immediately preceded our 10th Anniversary issue, focused on DPN. Dr. Jordan gave us an update on the DPN-10 celebration:

Our semester-long celebration of the Tenth Anniversary of DPN has been terrific. Beginning with the Kick-Off ceremony back in January, through the many panel discussions, the Gala, the March to the U.S. Capitol, right down to the conclusion, which took place on Commencement Day—it has been a memorable experience. More important, the celebration has been a great learning experience for our students, most of whom were too young in 1988 to understand the significance of DPN.

The theme of our DPN-10 celebration was *The Future Is In Our Hands*. Last year, when we began planning for the anniversary, I stressed the need to make it future-oriented. Of course we can enjoy remembering the past, but at the same time, we must focus on how the spirit of DPN contributes to Gallaudet's commitment to doing whatever is necessary to provide deaf and hard-of-hearing students with an educational experience that is high-caliber and complete.

Hearing aid

The GM Mobility Program now reimburses UP TO $1,000 for vehicle "alerting devices" which may especially help drivers who are deaf or hard of hearing. Devices such as emergency vehicle siren detectors and enhanced turning signal reminders — which flash red when a siren is sounded or your turn signal is left on.

HOW TO QUALIFY. If you are a driver and your hearing loss is 30 dB or greater, and you purchase or lease a new GM car, van, or light truck, you are eligible for reimbursement for such add-on devices up to $1,000 — alone or when combined with other mobility adaptations under the GM Mobility Program.

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Our Belief as a Deaf Hospice Program is that everyone is special and has a right to prepare for death in his or her own way.

The Deaf Hospice Program provides communication support so that Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard-of-Hearing people can have hospice services and *live* the ending of their life in a way that is meaningful to them.

▪ OUTREACH ▪ EDUCATION ▪ PATIENT CARE

- **Interpreters provided for all services**
- **Support care for family and loved ones**
- **Coordination of home care & inpatient care.**
- **Trained volunteers fluent in ASL.**
- **Providing communication access and advocacy to promote a hospice environment free of communication barriers.**

Jacob Perlow Hospice Deaf Program

TASK FORCE

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Congratulations,
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for its outstanding contributions to the Deaf community for the past 10 years! It's an important source of information and news for us. May it run for many more years to come!

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Alice L. Hagemeyer
and her associates of the Library for Deaf Action, a consulting business that includes Friends of Libraries for Deaf Action, salute
Deaf Life
on its 10th anniversary.
We also proudly commend **Deaf Life** as a high-quality deaf-related resource now available in many libraries.
Publisher and founder Matthew S. Moore has been a valuable friend over many years.

FOLDA, a part of Library for Deaf Action, is made up of several volunteer groups whose members and supporters have made a commitment to help all friends of the library recognize the diversity of their local deaf communities.

PYRAM

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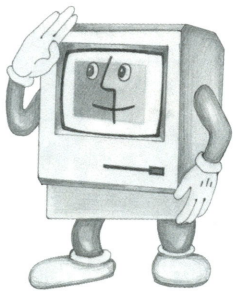
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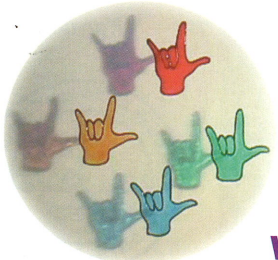

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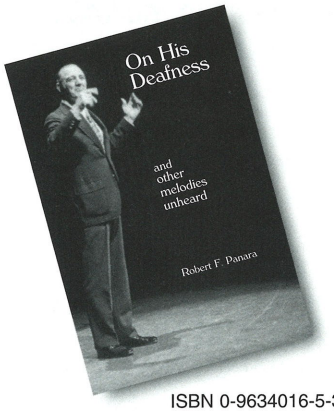

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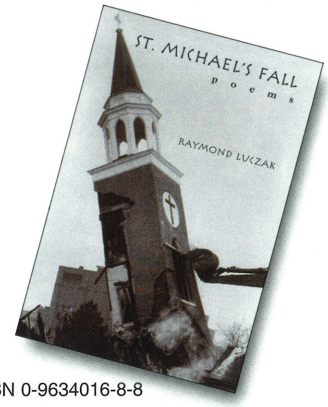

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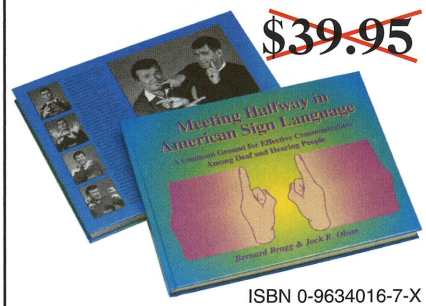

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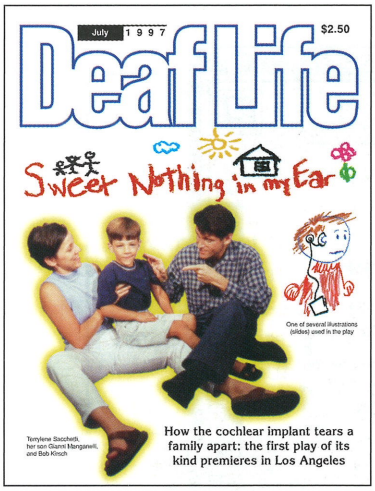
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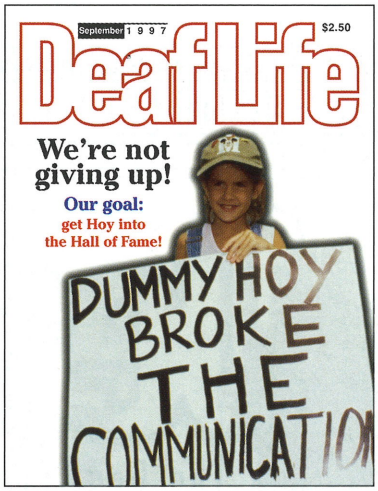
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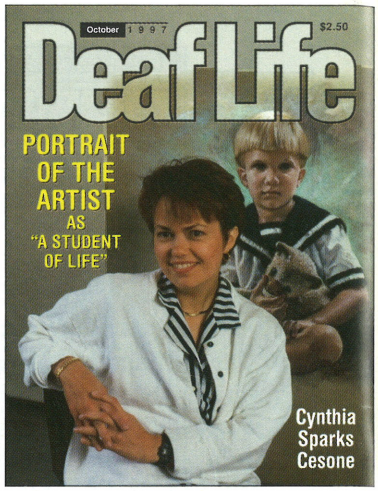
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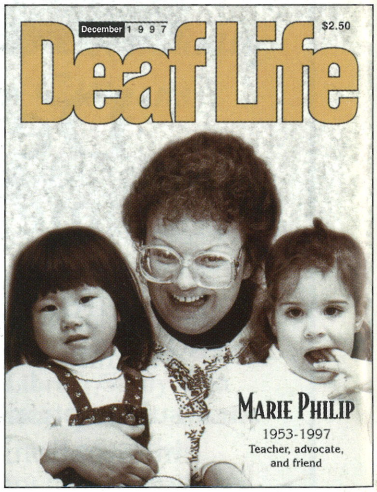
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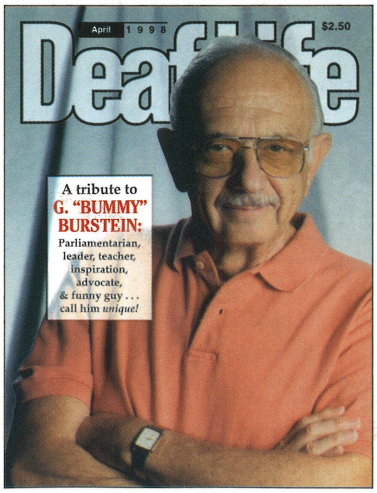
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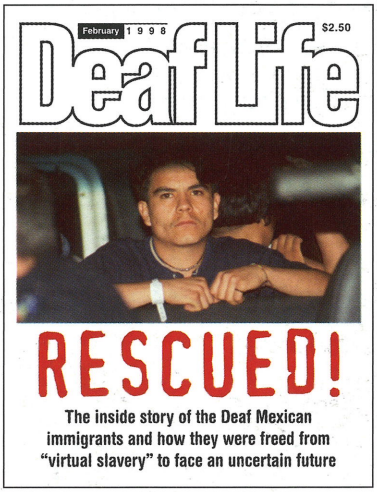
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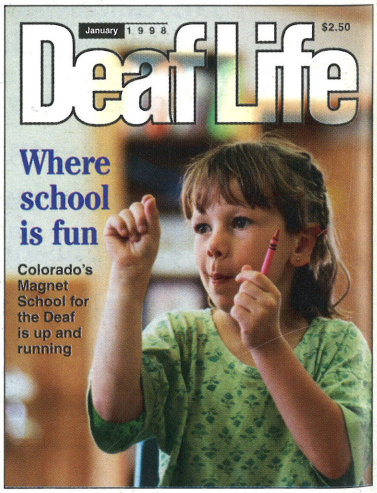
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